Joan Book 1

Yoshikazu Yasuhiko

Très chers [illegible] bien-aimés, Jeanne l
Pucelle,qui [illegible]ésirerait bienous voir,
a reçu votr[illegible]ettre dans laquelle
vous lui [illegible]siez que vous
craigniez d'[illegible]re assiégés.
Vous ne le s[illegible]rez pas, si je
puis rencont[illegible]les ennemis d'ici quelque temps.
Si je ne les re[illegible]contre pas, ils ne viendront pas
vous assiéger, [illegible]i vous fermez vos portes. Car je
pourrai venir rapidement vers vous; et si
les ennemis s'y trouvaient, je les ferais
chausser leurs éperons avec tant de hâte
qu'ils ne sauraient par ou les prendre,
[illegible]t, dans le cas où ils auraient mis le siège
[illegible]levant la ville, je le leur ferais lever rapidement
[illegible]e ne vous écris pas autre chose pour le moment;
soyez toujours bons et fideles. Je prie Dieu
qu'il vous ait en sa garde. Écrit à Sully, le 16 mars.

SUGGESTED
15UP

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Yoshikazu Yasuhiko

Uploader says: This book's long out of print by now, but I think you should Hunt down a physical copy if you can. My local library has one, and it's SO darn pretty. In fact, I'm rather tempted to report it missing or lost. *cough* Anyway, ComicsOne actually did a pretty nice job with the printed book. The full color art especially demands it be seen on paper. The E-version's all nasty and pixellated.

It also has a pretty map illustration that's not included in this ebook.

-Oriana3k

READ LEFT TO RIGHT

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Joan Book 1

PROLOGUE

Chapter 1
DOMREMY

Chapter 2
ORLEANS

Chapter 3
LOUIS

The Age Of Joan

Special Notes

Joan - I

Yoshikazu Yasuhiko

〈 PROLOGUE 〉

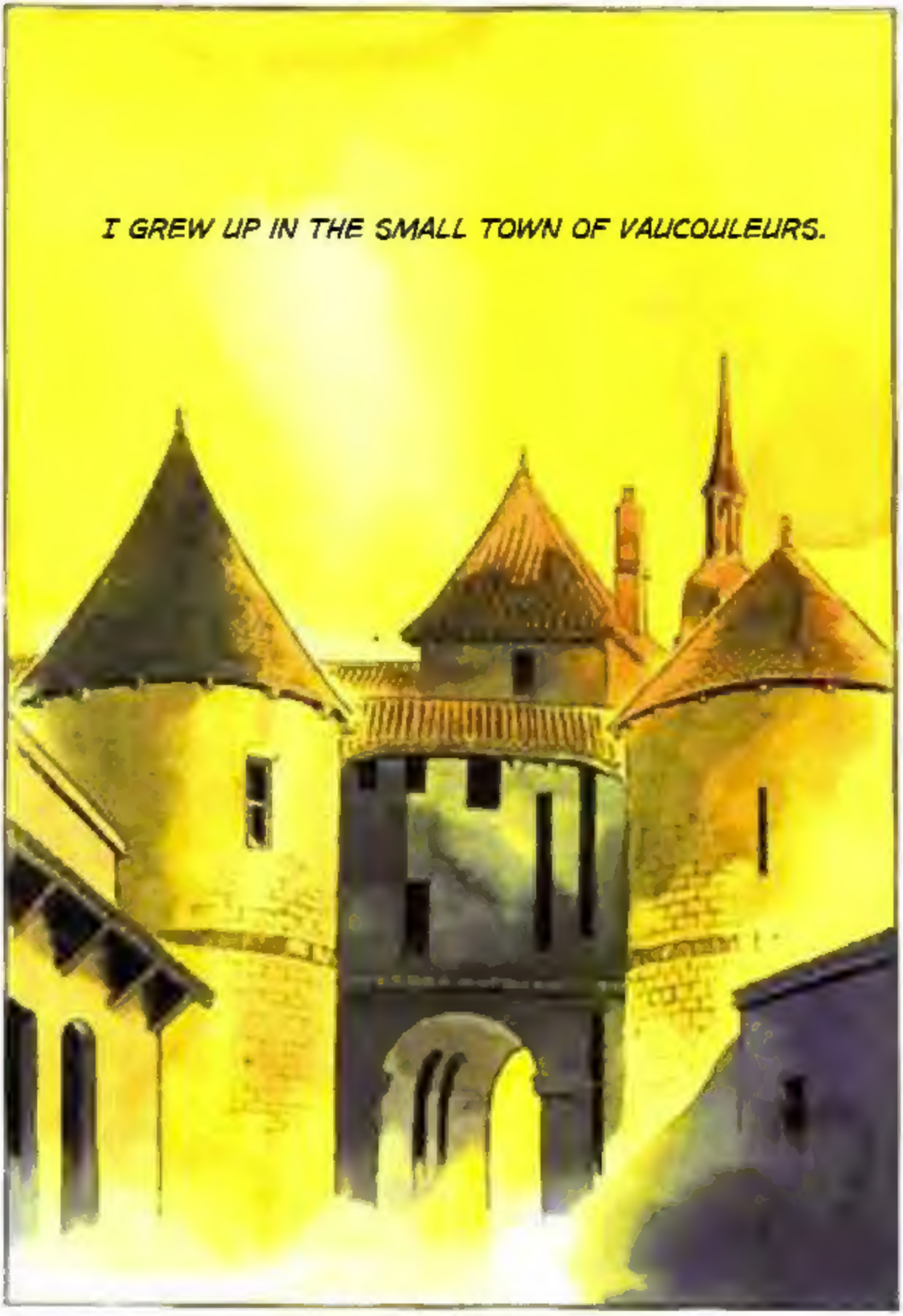
MAY 30, 1431.
A GIRL WAS BURNED
AT THE STAKE...
...AT THE
MARKETPLACE
IN ROUEN,
IN NORTHERN
FRANCE.

HER ASHES FLEW DOWN TO THE SEINE RIVER.

THE GIRL'S NAME WAS JOAN OF ARC. PEOPLE CALLED HER...

LA PUCELLE.

THIS PAGE ORIGINALLY BLANK. NOT SURE WHY IT'S HERE.


I GREW UP IN THE SMALL TOWN OF VAUCOULEURS.

THERE IS A SMALL CASTLE THERE.

THE LORD OF THE CASTLE, ITS GUARDIAN, ROBERT DE BAUDRICOURT, IS MY FOSTER FATHER.

HE IS MY FOSTER FATHER DESPITE THE FACT THAT I HAVE REAL PARENTS, BUT I'LL TELL YOU THAT STORY LATER.

LET ME BEGIN WITH THE WINTER DAY WHEN I EXPERIENCED THE FIRST WONDER.

I WAS BY THE FRENCH GATE, CLOSE TO THE CASTLE, PLAYING ALONE INTHE SUN.
THERE...
...SHE CAME.

SHE...
...SMILED AT ME.
I WAS RELIEVED BY HER SMILE AND...
ASKED WHERE SHE WAS GOING.
SHE ANSWERED,
TO FRANCE.

THEN I NOTICED
THAT SHE HAD MANY FOLLOWERS WITH HER.
AND,
BY MY SIDE,
WAS MY FOSTER FATHER.
HE LOOKED YOUNGER THAN
HE HAD BEEN IN ANY OF MY MEMORIES...
I STILL REMEMBER
WHAT HE WAS SAYING TO HIMSELF.
WELL,
LET IT BE.

I FOUND OUT LATER THAT WHAT I HAD SEEN WAS AN EVENT WHICH HAD HAPPENED THREE YEARS BEFORE I CAME TO THE CASTLE.
BUT I WAS MORE STRUCK BY TWO OTHER FACTS.

ONE IS THAT SHE WAS DRESSED LIKE A MAN
AND THAT HER HAIR WAS LIKE A MAN'S.

YES, I AM A GIRL, BUT HERE...

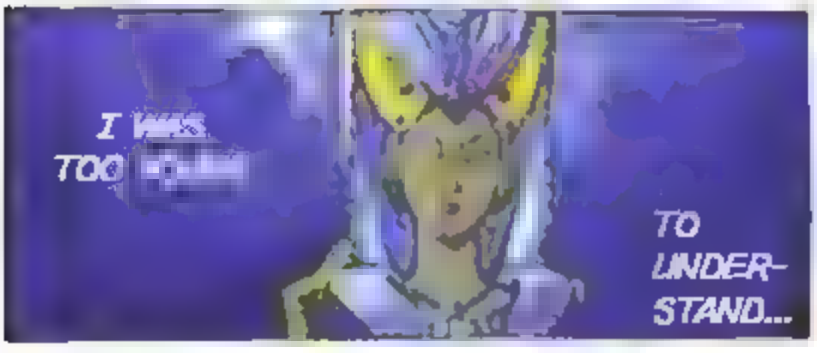
I WAS RAISED
A BOY.

IT WAS WHEN I WAS LIVING IN NANCY, AT THE CASTLE OF THE DUKE OF LORRAINE.*
THE OTHER THING IS RELATED TO MY EARLY MEMORIES... I HAD SEEN THAT WOMAN BE

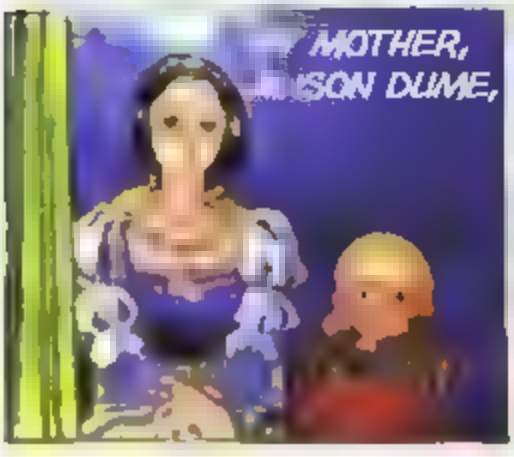
SHE WAS [illegible]LING BY
THE BED OF THE DUKE
OF LORRAINE, HER
FATHER.

YOUNG LADY,
I HAVE HEARD THAT YOU WORK MIRACLES.
DUKE,
I HAVE HEARD
THE VOICE OF GOD.
CAN YOU CURE MY ILLNESS?
I DON'T HAVE ANY MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE,
BUT
I CAN PRAY THAT GOD WILL HEAL YOUR ILLNESS.

IT FELT LIKE I WAS LISTENING TO THEIR CONVERSATION IN A DREAM.


I WAS TOO [illegible] TO UNDERSTAND...

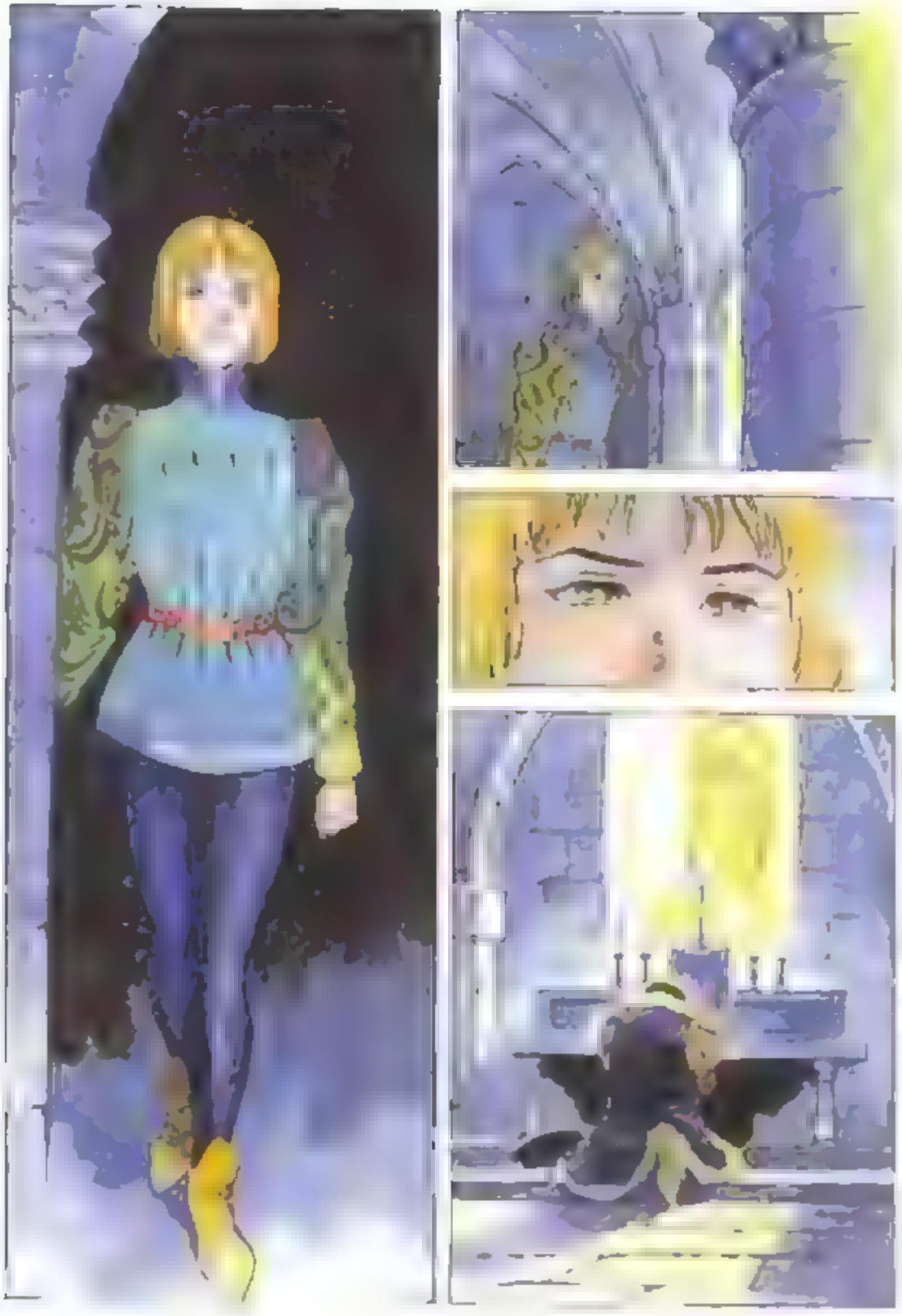
[illegible] THE DAUGHTER OF A POOR ENTERTAINER, AND WAS NOT THE WIFE OF THE DUKE.


MOTHER, [illegible]SON DUME,

WAS A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN,

MY FATHER DIED THREE YEARS LATER AND A TERRIBLE THING HAPPENED: HIS WIFE, MARGARET, WHO HATED MY MOTHER, ACCUSED HER OF HAVING RUINED HIM, OF HAVING KILLED HIM.
MANAGED TO ESCAPE THE CASTLE.

WE [illegible] SEP[illegible]RATE[illegible] AND SHE W[illegible] CAP[illegible]
I HEARD THAT SHE WAS TORTURED AND KILLED.
I WAS SAVED BY [illegible]DRICOURT, WHO WAS SERVING MY FATHER [illegible] THE TIME.
WE HAD TO HIDE MY PARENTAGE, SO I BECAME HIS CHILD.
WE EVEN HID THE FACT THAT I WAS A GIRL.



YOU'RE HERE, EMIL?
PLEASE PRAY WITH ME
FOR MY LUCK AS A SOLDIER AND FOR MY REDEMP-TION.
?
CONSTABLE RICHEMONT ORDERED ME TO JOIN HIS ARMY UNDER THE KING.
I HAVE TO LEAVE HERE SOON.
IS IT THE WAR
AGAINST ENGLAND?
NO.
SOME LOCAL LORDS HAVE STARTED A REBELLION IN SUPPORT OF THE DAUPHIN.
!
ALTHOUGH WE RECOVERED PARIS AFTER THE PEACE OF ARRAS*, WE STILL HAVE TO FIGHT
OUR OWN COUNTRY-MEN.
IS THIS THE FATE OF FRANCE?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY REDEM-PTION?
I'VE MADE TWO GIRLS WEAR MALE CLOTHES
AND IT HAS CAUSED THE DEATH OF ONE OFTHEM.
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT "LA PUCELLE"
YES.
BUT I BROUGHT YOU UP AS A BOY, AS WELL.
IT'S A SIN TO CROSS GOD'S WORK. I DESERVE DEATH.
BUT BECAUSE OF THAT,
I HAVE SURVIVED UNTIL NOW, RIGHT?
BUT THERE'S NOTHING TO HIDE ANYMORE. THE CURRENT DUKE OF LORRAINE, RENE D'ANJOU*, IS A FRIEND OF MINE. HE WON'T DO ANYTHING TO HARM YOU.
UNTIL NOW....

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE, EMIL.
NO, EMILY.
LIVE AS A WOMAN FROM NOW ON.
NO.
!
EXCUSE ME, FATHER
I'LL LIVE AS A MAN FOR A WHILE.
I'M AL-READY 17.
I CAN ACT LIKE A GROWN UP MAN.
I'M NOT A CHILD ANY-MORE...
I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS.

TRUST ME!
I WANT TO LEARN MORE!
DO YOU WANT TO HAVE THE SAME DESTINY AS
LA PUC-ELLE?
I WOULDN'T MIND
IF THAT'S MY DESTINY!
OHHH...
I REALLY AM.
CURSED!
WHY DOES GOD TEST AN UNIMPOR-TANT SOLDIER LIKE ME?
I CAUSED THE DEATH OF THAT FARM GIRL
BY DOING WHAT I THOUGHT WAS GOOD FOR THE KING!

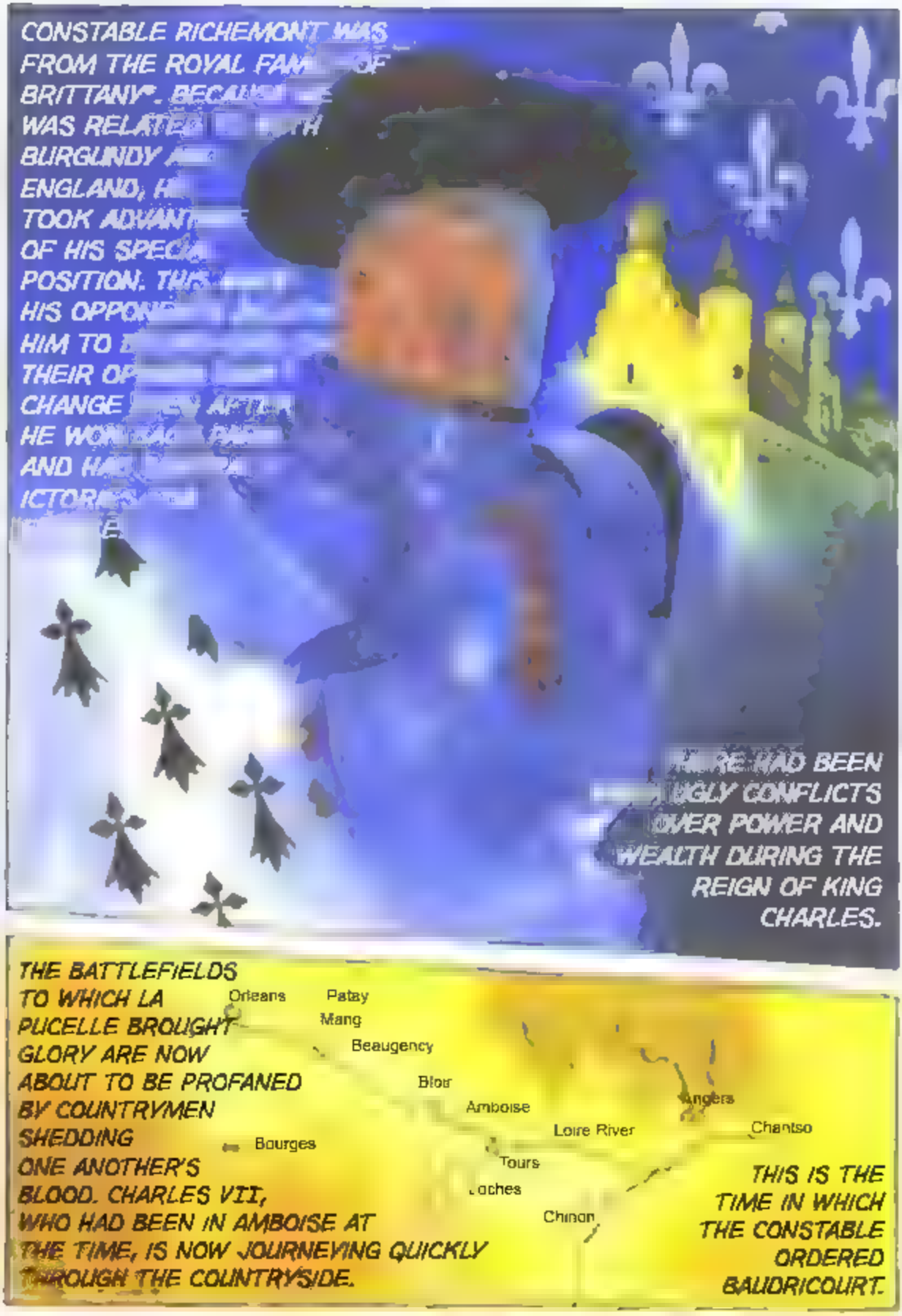
SEND ME ON THAT MISSION ORDERED BY THE CONS-TABLE!
I CAN HELP YOU!
YOU...
TO SAY SUCH A THING!!
I DON'T WANT FAME! WITHOUT A LORD, THIS CASTLE .
...WILL BE ATTACKED.
I BE-LIEVE I WILL HAVE GOD'S HELP.
I'VE HEARD GOD'S VOICE, JUST LIKE LA PUCELLE.
IF GOD BLESSES HIS MAJESTY,
I THINK I CAN HELP, TOO.

BECAUSE
JOAN'S VISION IS ONLY HALFWAY COMPLETED AND THE KINGDOM OF JUSTICE HAS YET TO BE BUILT.
THIS IS HOW I LEFT
ELEVEN
YEARS
SHE LEFT THE SAME "FRENCH GATE".....
LET IT BE.....

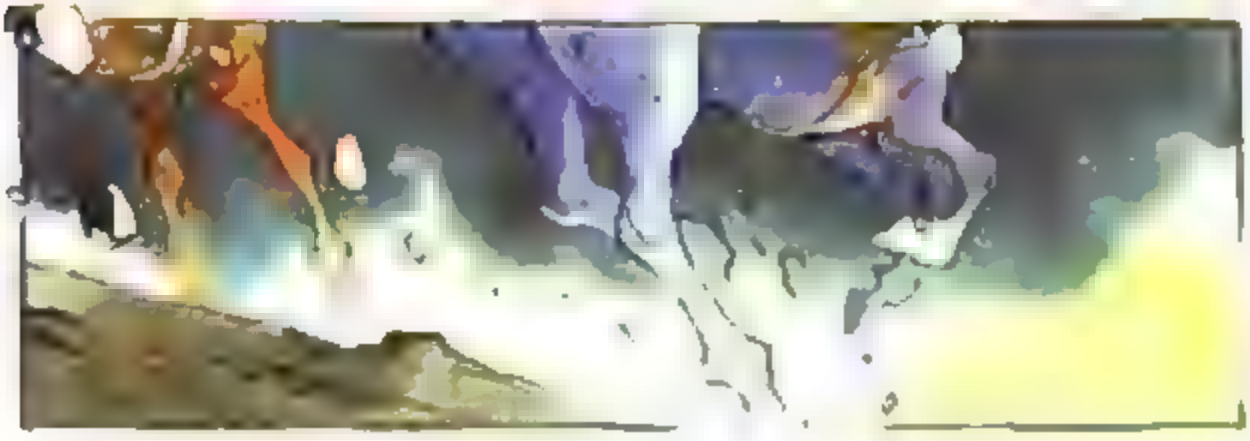
Chapter 1

DOMREMY

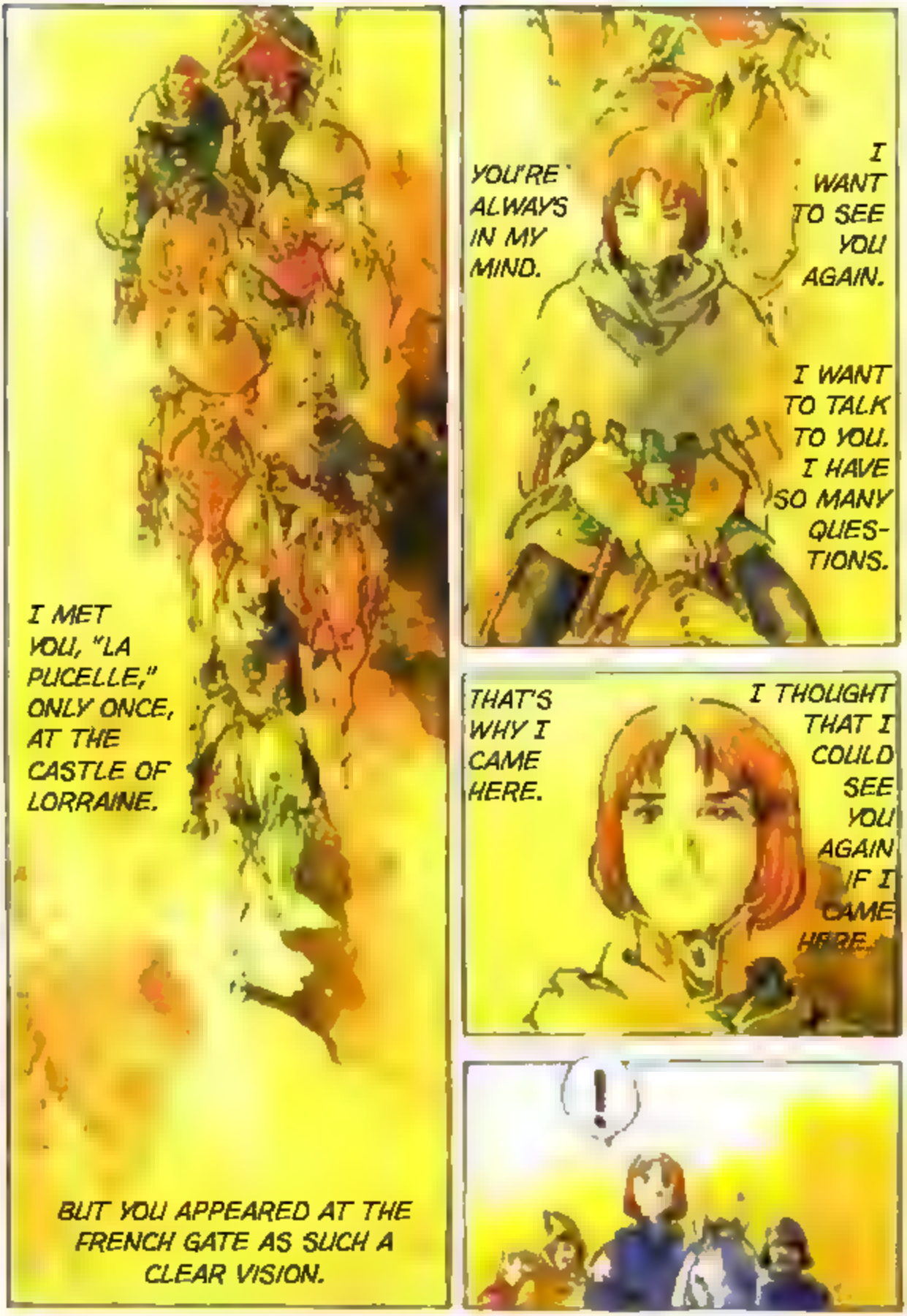
SO MANY THINGS HAPPENED IN THIS YEAR, 1446. ONE OF THEM WAS A REVOLT CALLED THE "PRAGUERIE" WHICH FORCED CHARLES VII INTO A DIFFICULT SITUATION.
THE ARISTOCRATS AND LORDS WHO FOUGHT WITH THE AGAINST ENGLAND
IME.
THIS INTRIGUE WAS BROUGHT AB
THE YOUNG DAUPHIN, LOUIS, WH
USING HIS INFLUENCE OVER ANT
RICHEMONT GROUPS TO TRY TO
TAKE HIS FATHER'S THRONE.
THOSE GROUPS WERE AGAINST CONSTABLE RICHEMONT BECAUSE OF FORCEFUL MILITARY POLICY.


CONSTABLE RICHEMONT WAS
FROM THE ROYAL FAM OF
BRITTANY. BECAU E
WAS RELATE TH
BURGUNDY
ENGLAND, H
TOOK ADVAN
OF HIS SPEC
POSITION. THI
HIS OPPON
HIM TO
THEIR OP
CHANGE
HE WON
AND HA
ICTOR
RE HAD BEEN
UGLY CONFLICTS
OVER POWER AND
WEALTH DURING THE
REIGN OF KING
CHARLES.
THE BATTLEFIELDS
TO WHICH LA
PUCELLE BROUGHT
GLORY ARE NOW
ABOUT TO BE PROFANED
BY COUNTRYMEN
SHEDDING
ONE ANOTHER'S
BLOOD. CHARLES VII,
WHO HAD BEEN IN AMBOISE AT
THE TIME, IS NOW JOURNEYING QUICKLY
THROUGH THE COUNTRYSIDE.
Orleans
Patay
Mang
Beaugency
Blois
Amboise
Loire River
Bourges
Tours
Loches
Chinon
Angers
Chantso
THIS IS THE
TIME IN WHICH
THE CONSTABLE
ORDERED
BAUDRICOURT.

I WANTED TO GO TO DOMREMY!!



ALAS,
I'M FINALLY
HERE.
IT'S VERY CLOSE TO VALICOULEURS
AND I HAVE BEEN WANTING TO
COME HERE.


I MET YOU, "LA PUCELLE," ONLY ONCE, AT THE CASTLE OF LORRAINE.
BUT YOU APPEARED AT THE FRENCH GATE AS SUCH A CLEAR VISION.
YOU'RE ALWAYS IN MY MIND.
I WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
I WANT TO TALK TO YOU. I HAVE SO MANY QUES-TIONS.
THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE.
I THOUGHT THAT I COULD SEE YOU AGAIN IF I CAME HERE.
!

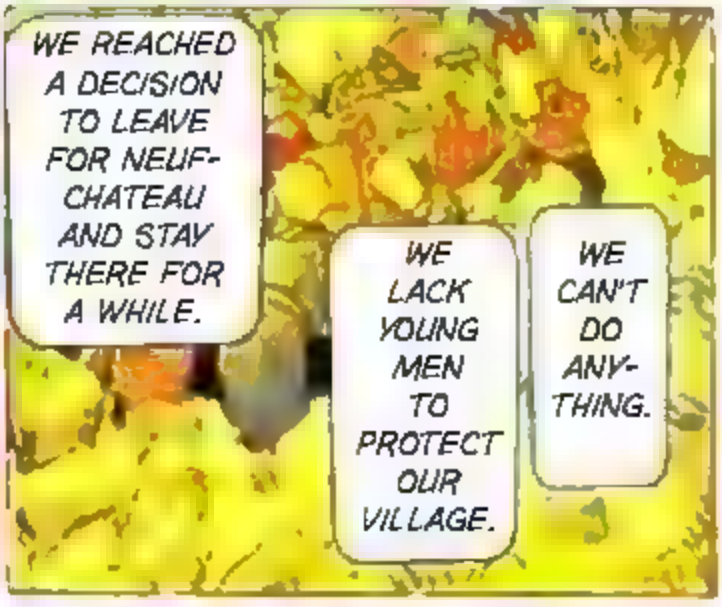
"MOOOOOOO"
NEIGH
MOOO
!
!
!

ZOOO

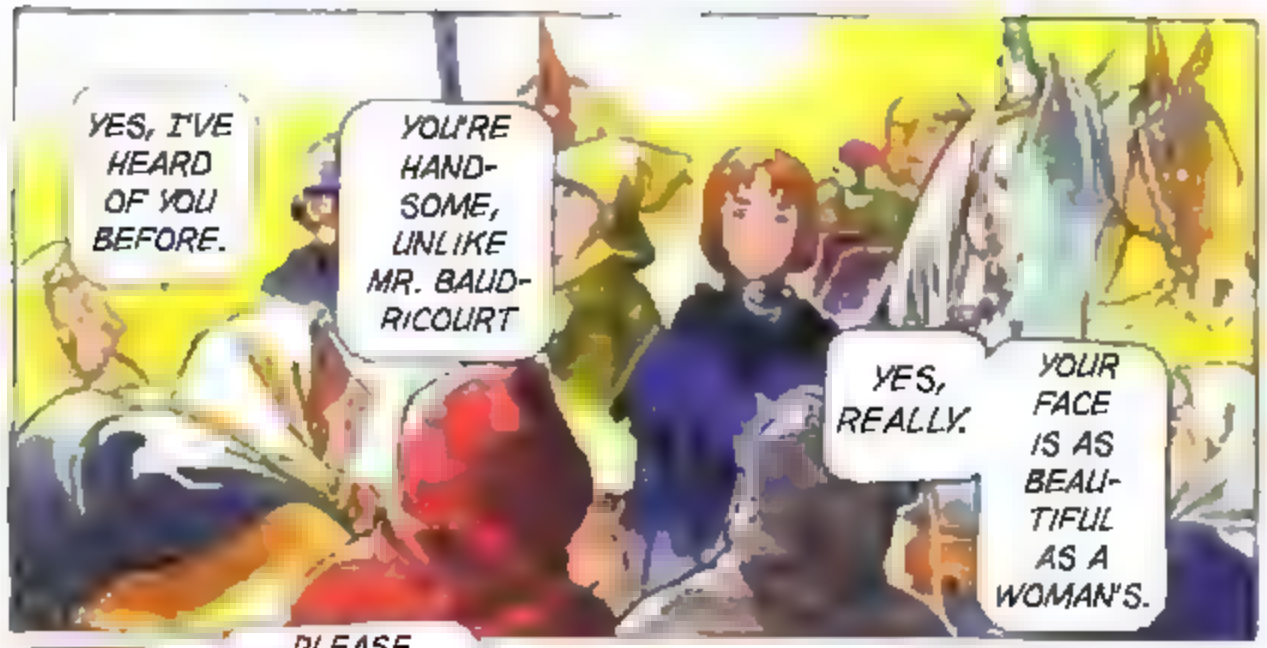
ZU-GH
OOOZ
AAHHH

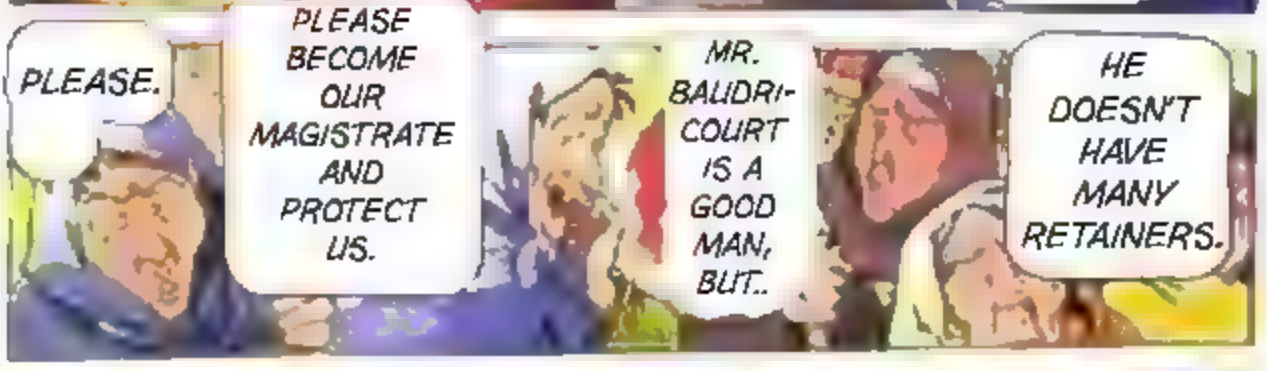
HEY, DON'T GO!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FLEE!!
WE ARE FROM VAUCOU-LEURS!!
CALM DOWN!!
WE'RE NOT HIGHWAYMEN!!
DON'T FLEE!!

WE HEARD THAT
HIGHWAY-MEN ARE COMING BECAUSE OF THE WAR BETWEEN THE KING AND THE DAUPHIN.

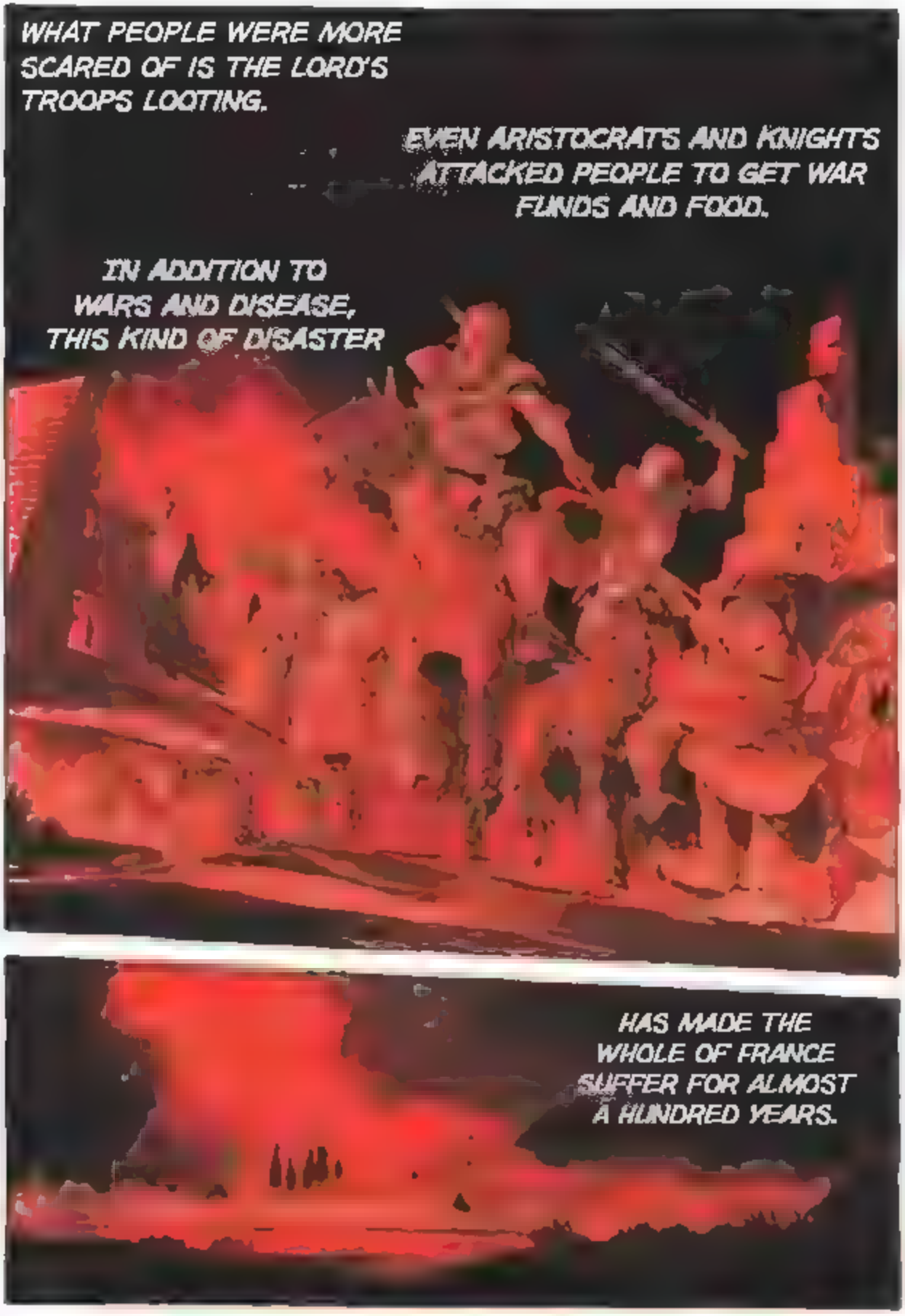

WE REACHED A DECISION TO LEAVE FOR NEUF-CHATEAU AND STAY THERE FOR A WHILE.
WE LACK YOUNG MEN TO PROTECT OUR VILLAGE.
WE CAN'T DO ANY-THING.

SO YOU ARE THE SON OF VAUCOU-LEURS?

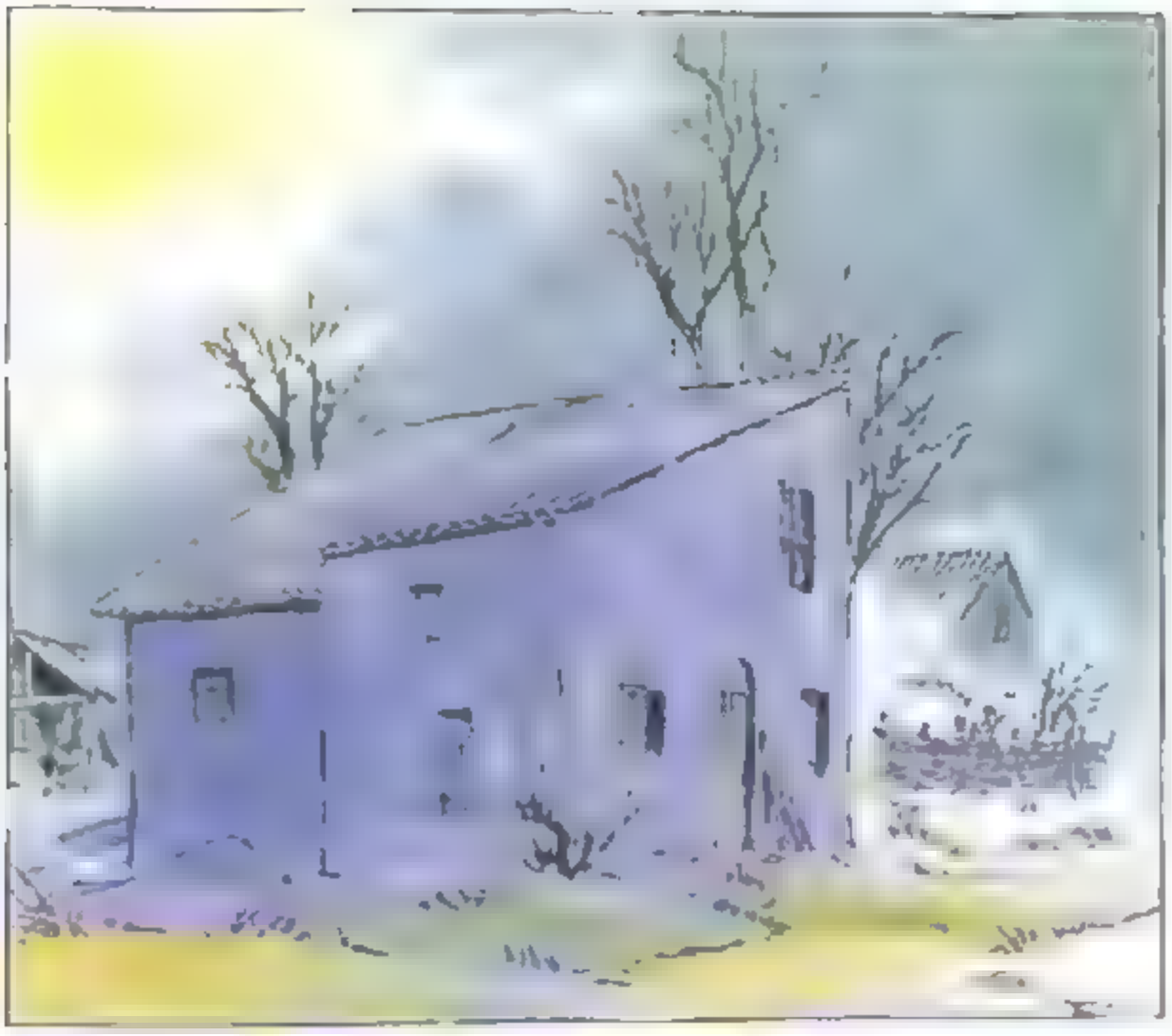

YES, I'VE HEARD OF YOU BEFORE.
YOU'RE HANDSOME, UNLIKE MR. BAUDRICOURT
YES, REALLY.
YOUR FACE IS AS BEAUTIFUL AS A WOMAN'S.

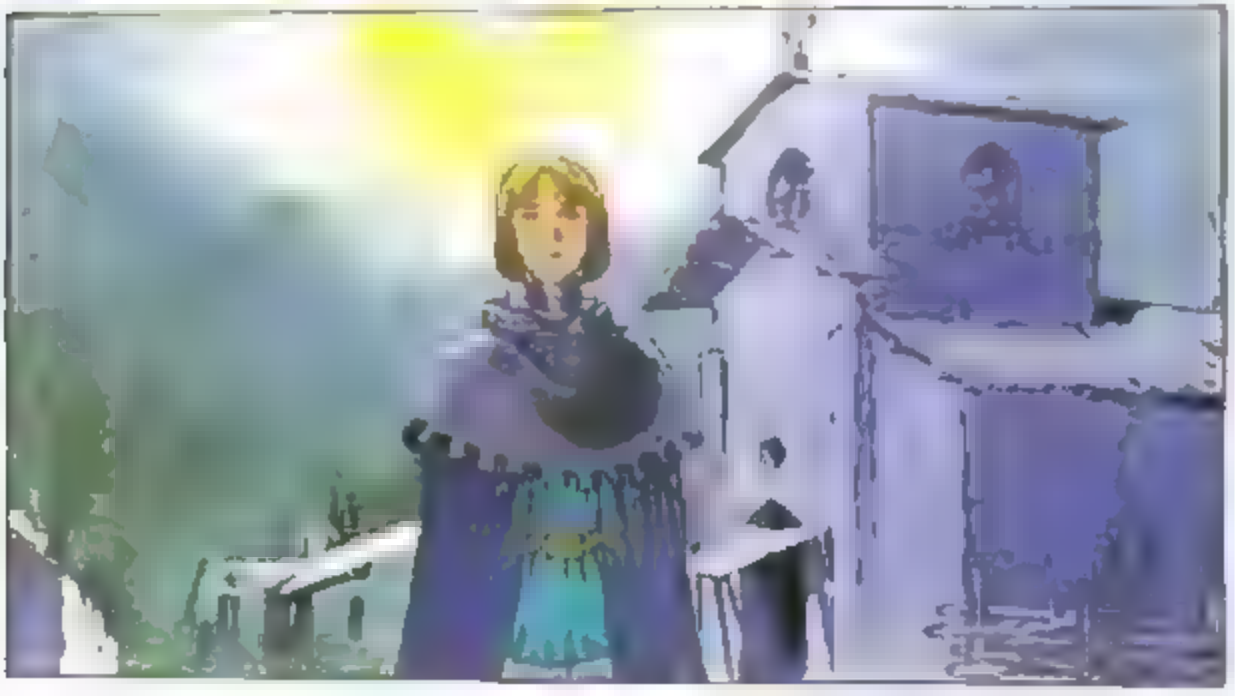

PLEASE.
PLEASE BECOME OUR MAGISTRATE AND PROTECT US.
MR. BAUDRICOURT IS A GOOD MAN, BUT..
HE DOESN'T HAVE MANY RETAINERS.

"HIGHWAYMEN" ARE NOT ONLY BANDITS AND BURGLARS.


WHAT PEOPLE WERE MORE SCARED OF IS THE LORD'S TROOPS LOOTING.
EVEN ARISTOCRATS AND KNIGHTS ATTACKED PEOPLE TO GET WAR FUNDS AND FOOD.
IN ADDITION TO WARS AND DISEASE, THIS KIND OF DISASTER
HAS MADE THE WHOLE OF FRANCE SUFFER FOR ALMOST A HUNDRED YEARS.

MR. D'ARC'S HOUSE?
IT'S NEXT TO THE CHURCH. YOU'LL FIND IT EASILY, IT HAS A BIG PENT ROOF.
BUT
NO ONE HAS LIVED THERE FOR YEARS.
NO ONE?
YES. A REALLY TERRIBLE THING HAPPENED TO THE DAUGHTER, JOAN.
HER FATHER WAS HEART-BROKEN AND DIED SOON AFTER
HER MOTHER AND BROTHERS LEFT THE HOME.
THEY BECAME ARISTO-CRATS, BUT
FARMERS..
THEY SHOULD HAVE REMAINED FARMERS AND WORKED HARD.
THE ENDING WAS SAD





LA PUCELLE, JOAN...
YOU MUST HAVE
WANTED TO
S
MUCH.
YOU MUST HAVE WANTED TO LIVE PEACEFULLY WITH YOUR PARENTS.
IF TH WASN'T
AN EN
WARTIME...

JANET.
WHO ARE ...YOU?

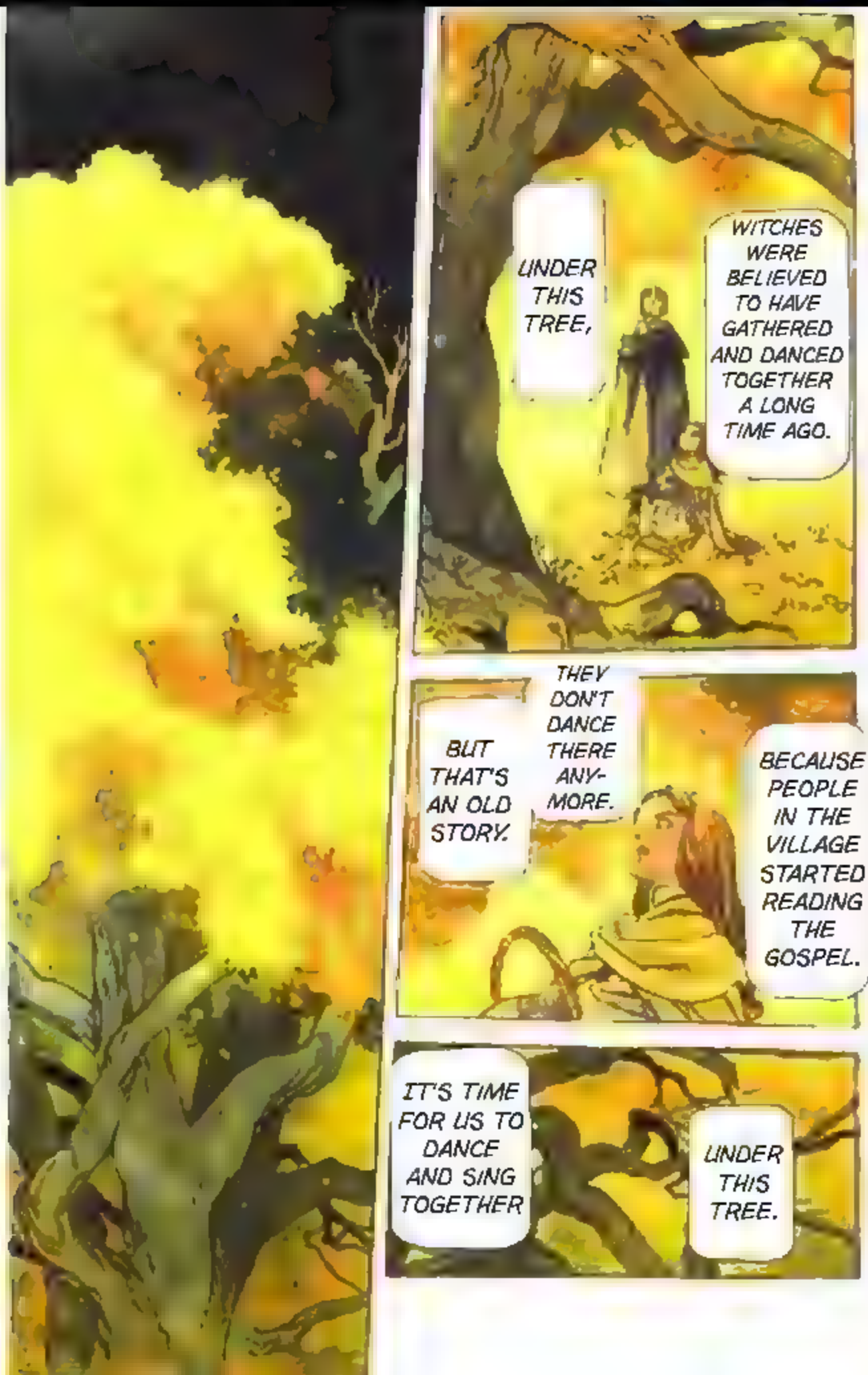
JOAN.
LA PUCELLE?
PEOPLE CALLED ME SO IN FRANCE.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, EMIL. I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.
YOU FINALLY REACHED MY AGE.
CAN YOU WAIT FOR A SECOND?
IT'S OKAY WITH YOU, RIGHT?
I WANT TO GET RID OF THIS THREAD.
"WHIRRRRRRR"

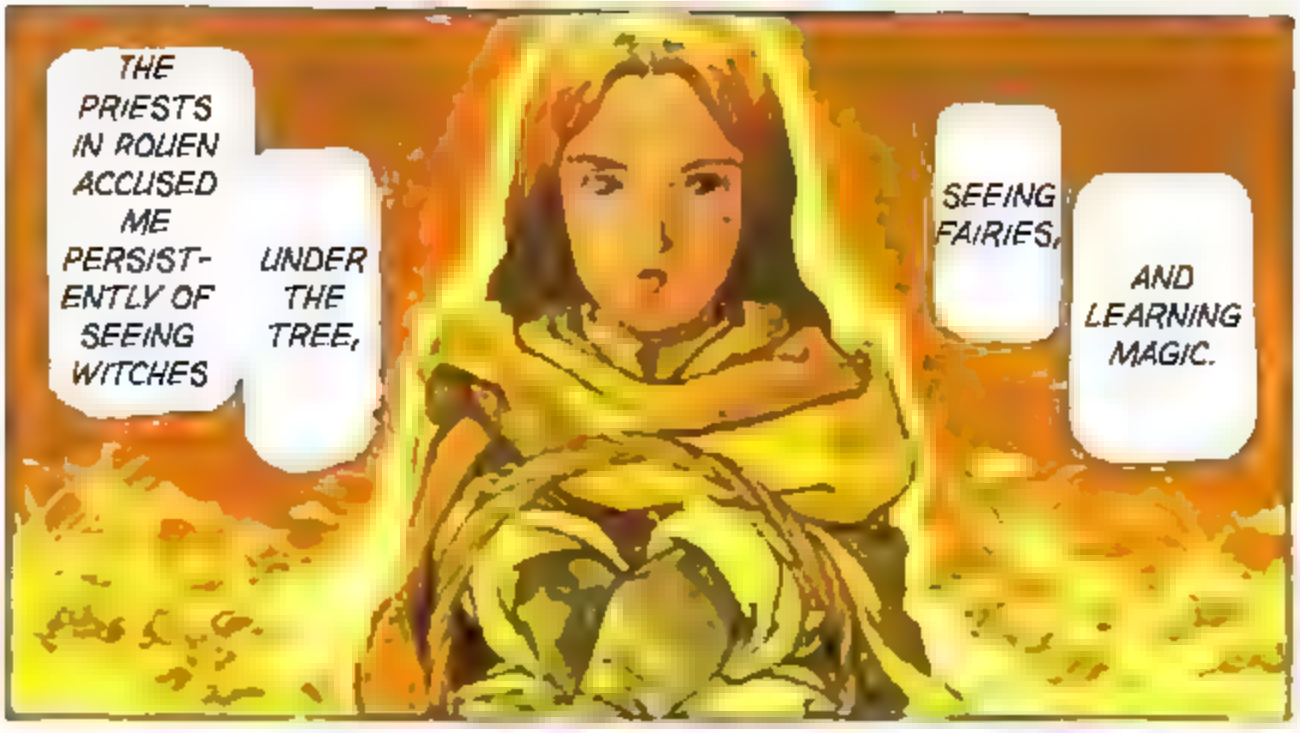
I DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT.
I'M ON MY WAY TO VAUCOULEURS TO
MEET HIS MAJESTY.
!

FALL?!
IS IT FALL NOW?

YES. THE FALL OF TWELVE YEARS AGO.
YOU WERE ONLY A 4 OR 5-YEAR-OLD GIRL, LIVING IN A CASTLE OF DUKE OFLORRAINE.
LET'S GO.
GO?
WHERE?

TO MY FAVORITE FAIRY
HARRY TREE?
YES!
YOU KNOW THAT VERY WELL!


UNDER THIS TREE,
WITCHES WERE BELIEVED TO HAVE GATHERED AND DANCED TOGETHER A LONG TIME AGO.
BUT THAT'S AN OLD STORY.
THEY DON'T DANCE THERE ANY-MORE.
BECAUSE PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE STARTED READING THE GOSPEL.
IT'S TIME FOR US TO DANCE AND SING TOGETHER
UNDER THIS TREE.

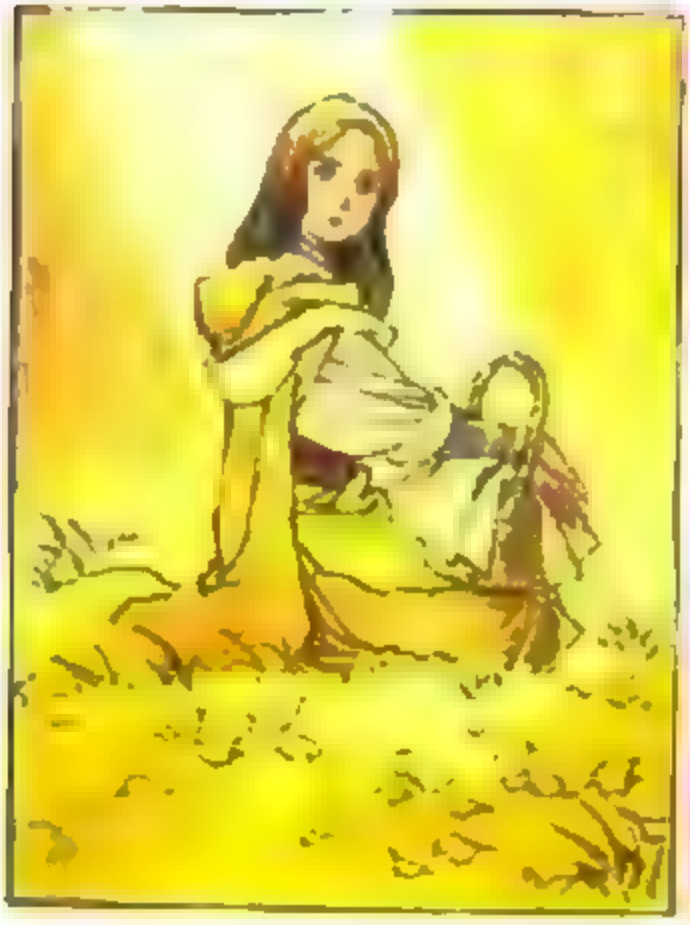

THE PRIESTS IN ROUEN ACCUSED ME PERSISTENTLY OF SEEING WITCHES
UNDER THE TREE,
SEEING FAIRIES,
AND LEARNING MAGIC.

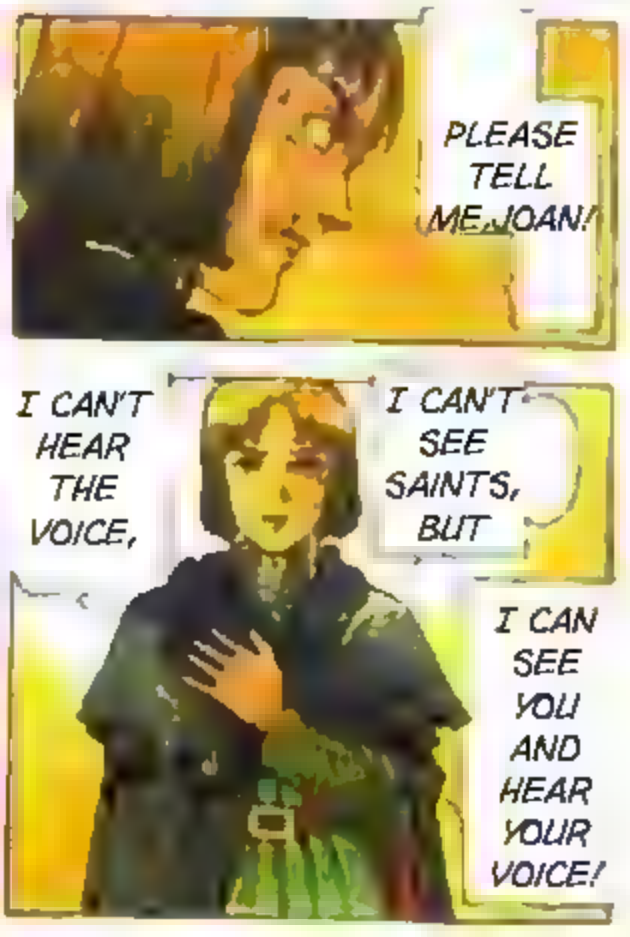
THOSE I MET WERE SAINTS: ST. MICHAEL, ST. CATHERINE, AND ST. MARGARET. BUT
WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY ASKED WHEN I TOLD THEM ABOUT IT?
"WERE THEY NAKED?" "DID THEY HAVE HAIR?" "DID THEY HAVE SCALES?"
"DID THEY TALK TO YOU IN ENGLISH?"

ISN'T IT FUNNY, EMIL?
THOSE PRIESTS HAVEN'T SEEN SAINTS OR ANGELS,
EVEN THOUGH THEY HAVE HOLY POSITIONS IN THE CHURCH.
THEY DON'T EVEN
BELIEVE IN GOD BECAUSE
THEY WOULDN'T BELIEVE MY STORY ABOUT THE VOICE AND THE FIGURE.
JOAN, LA PUCELLE.
I'LL ...
THEY COULD NOT FORGIVE ME WHO JUST DID
WHAT GOD ASKED ME TO DO.
AND
THEY BURNED ...
..AND KILLED ME.

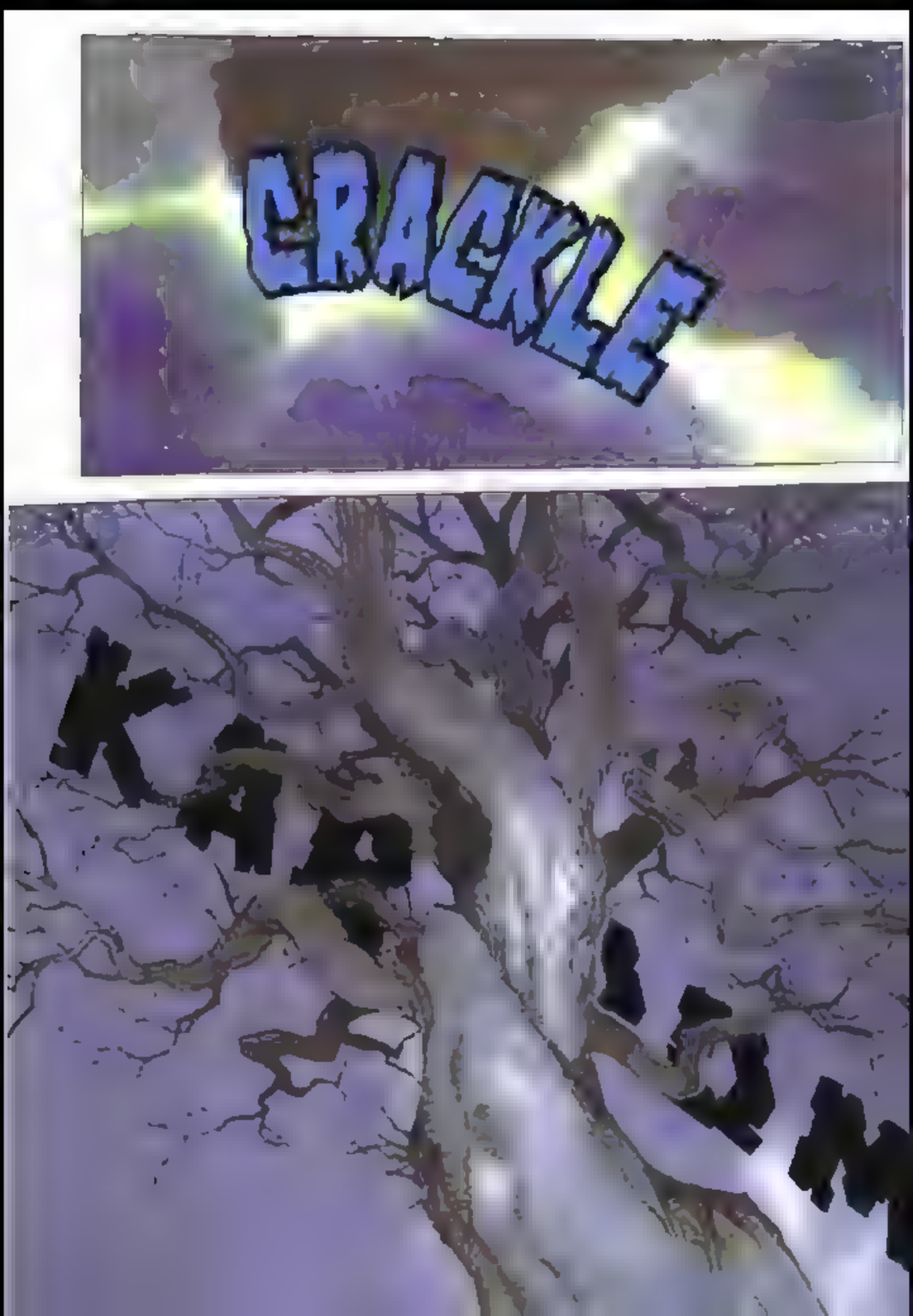
...GO TO FRANCE ON A WINTER'S DAY, JUST LIKE YOU DID.
I'LL FIGHT WITH A SWORD
FOR KING CHARLES.

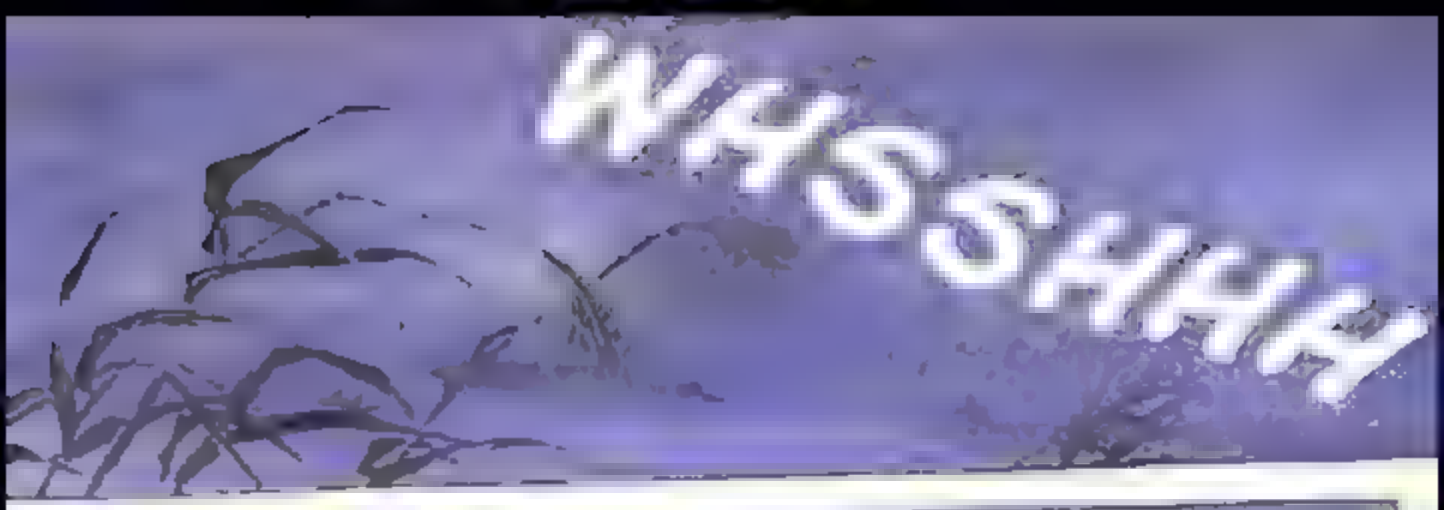
I KNOW YOU HAVE SOME-THING TO TELL ME.
AM I RIGHT?

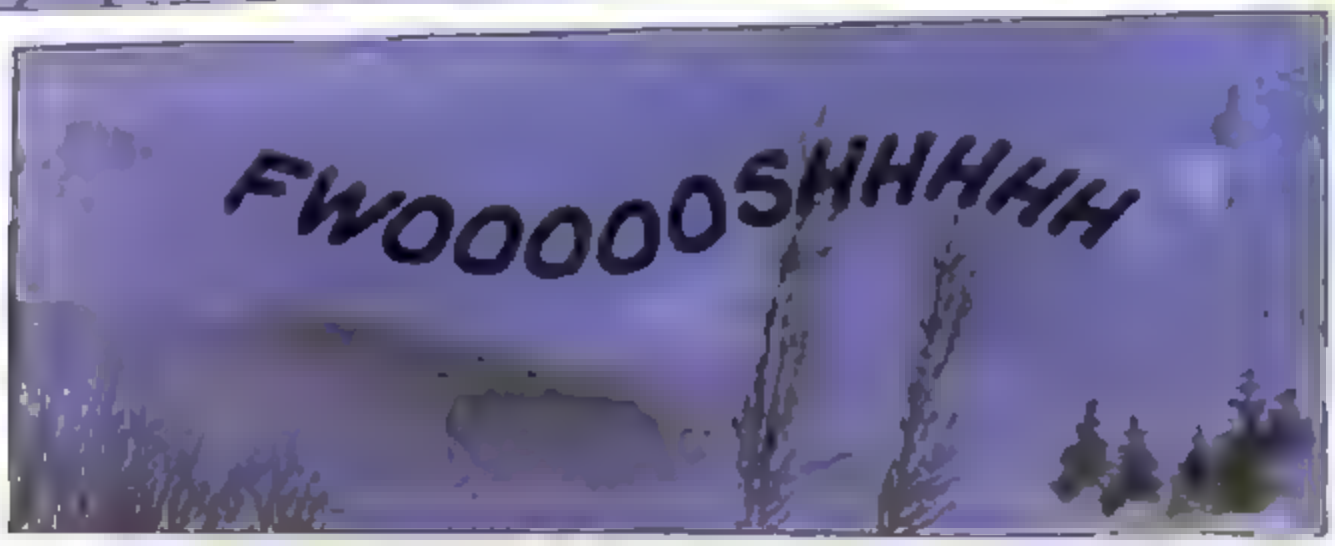


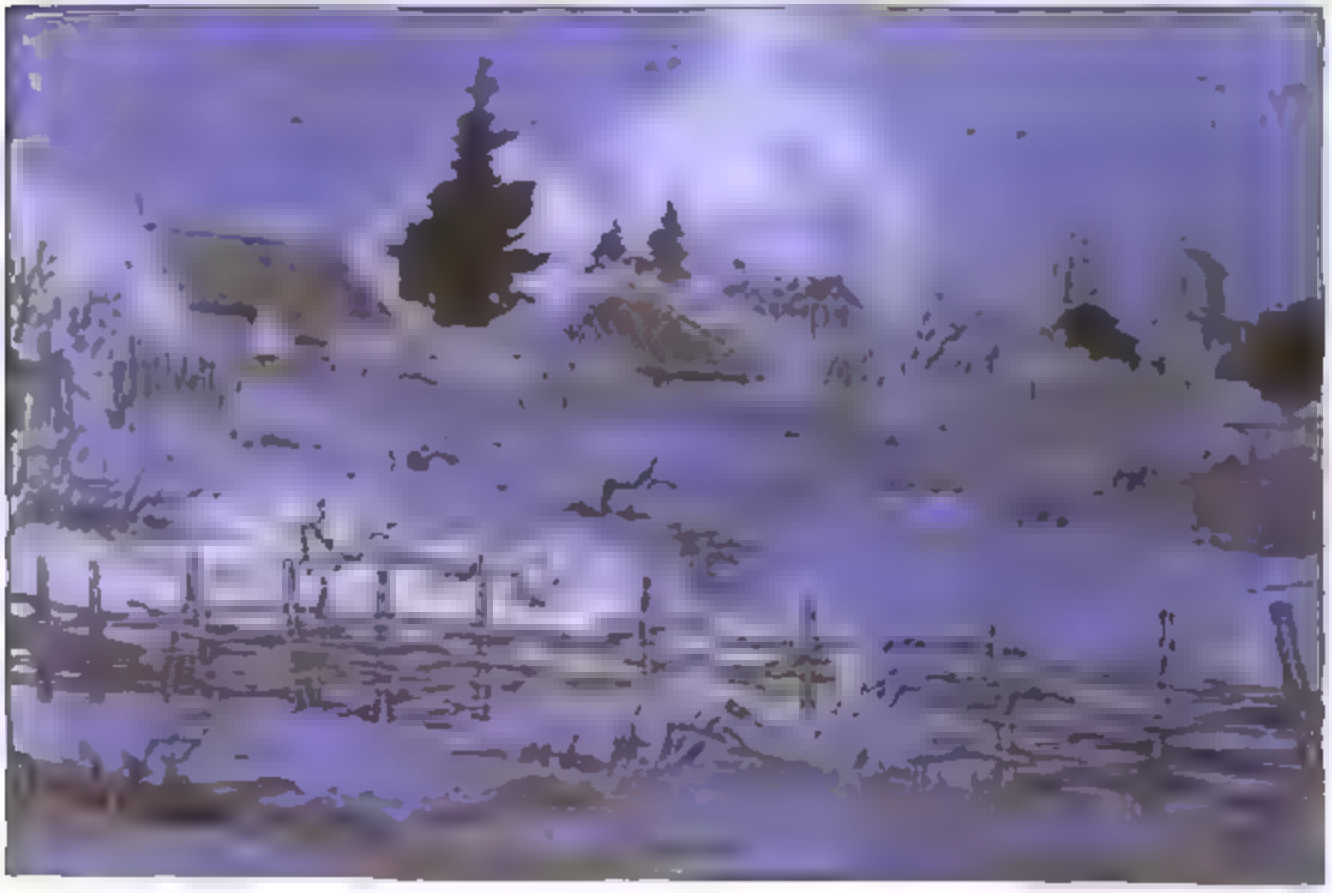

PLEASE TELL ME, JOAN!
I CAN'T HEAR THE VOICE,
I CAN'T SEE SAINTS, BUT
I CAN SEE YOU AND HEAR YOUR VOICE!

PLEASE PROTECT THE KING.
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS.
NO MATTER
WHAT HAPPENS?
THAT'S RIGHT.
JUST AS I DID,
WITH A BELIEF IN GOD'S WILL.

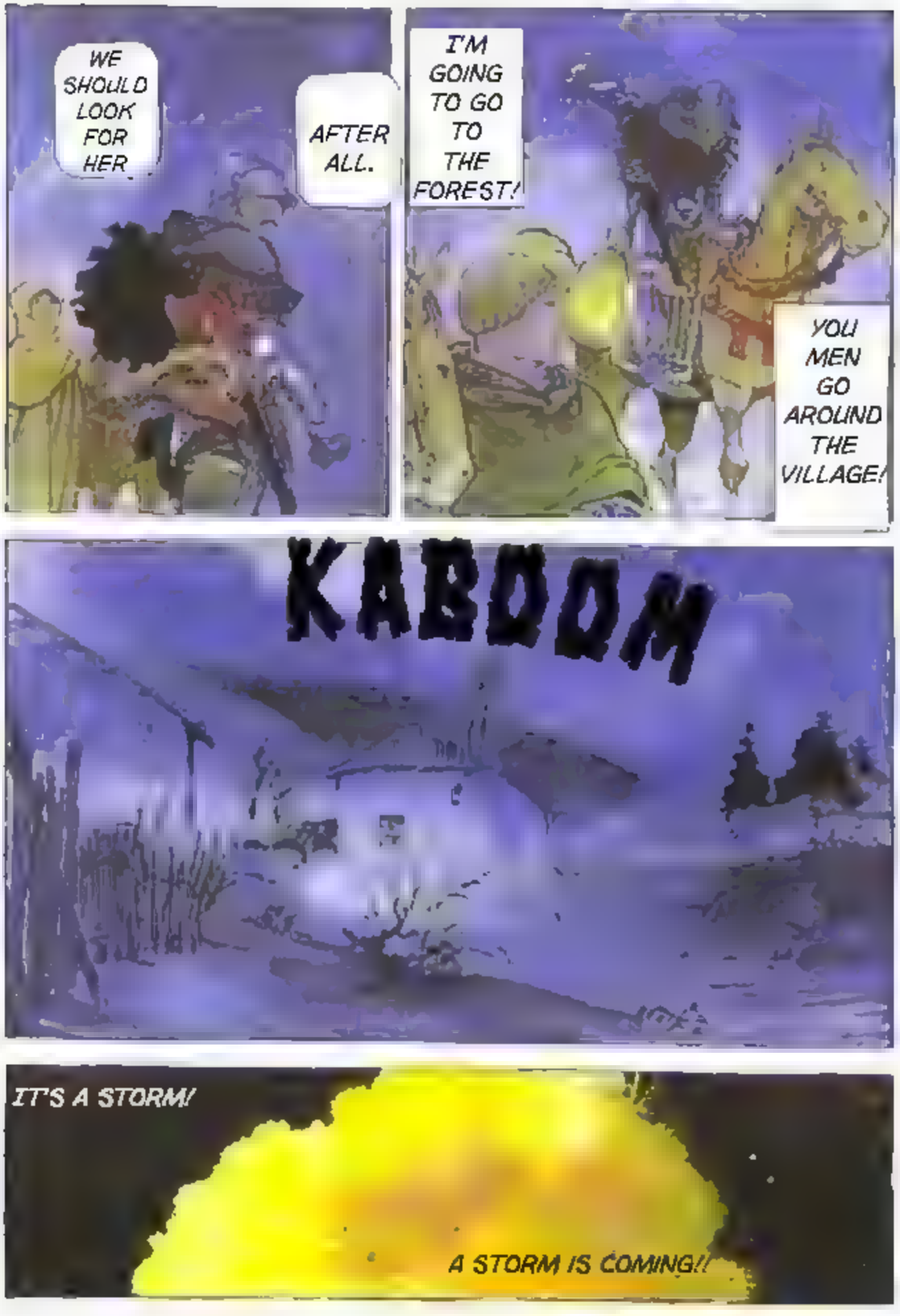

CRACKLE
KA-BOOM


WHSSHHH


FWOOOOOSHHHHH



WINTER THUNDER.
THE WEATHER IS GETTING BAD
HEY
IT'S BEEN A WHILE...
CRA CKLE
KABOOM

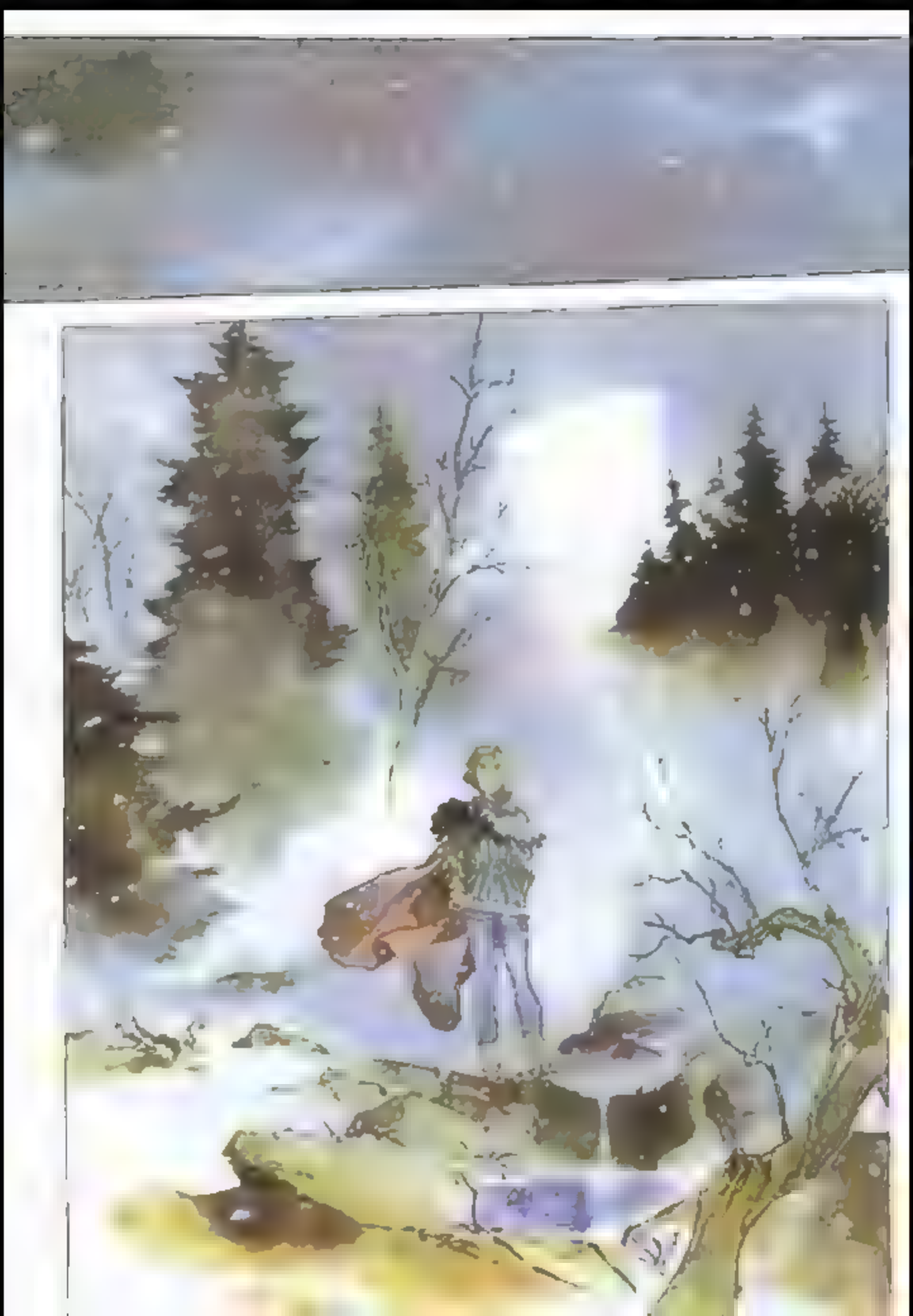

WE SHOULD LOOK FOR HER
AFTER ALL.
I'M GOING TO GO TO THE FOREST!
YOU MEN GO AROUND THE VILLAGE!
KABOOM
IT'S A STORM!
A STORM IS COMING!!

I PACKED MY LUNCH BUT...
WE CAN'T STAY HERE!
DARK CLOUDS ARE COMING FROM THE WEST
BEARING DOWN!
IT'S GOING TO POUR!

SEE YOU!
JANET!
SEE YOU TOMORROW,
MANGET AND OVIETTE!
COLIN!
DON'T SKIP MASSES!
COME ON MICHELLE AND SIMONE!
LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER!

IF YOU BELIEVE IN HIM.
DON'T WORRY. GOD WILL PROTECT YOU
GOD WILL NEVER DO ANYTHING BAD TO YOU

COME ON!
HELP US CARRY THE HAY INSIDE!
YES!!



KABOOM
EMIL!!
EMIL!

..YOU MET
LA PUCELLE, DIDN'T YOU?
WHAT DID SHE SAY
TO YOU?

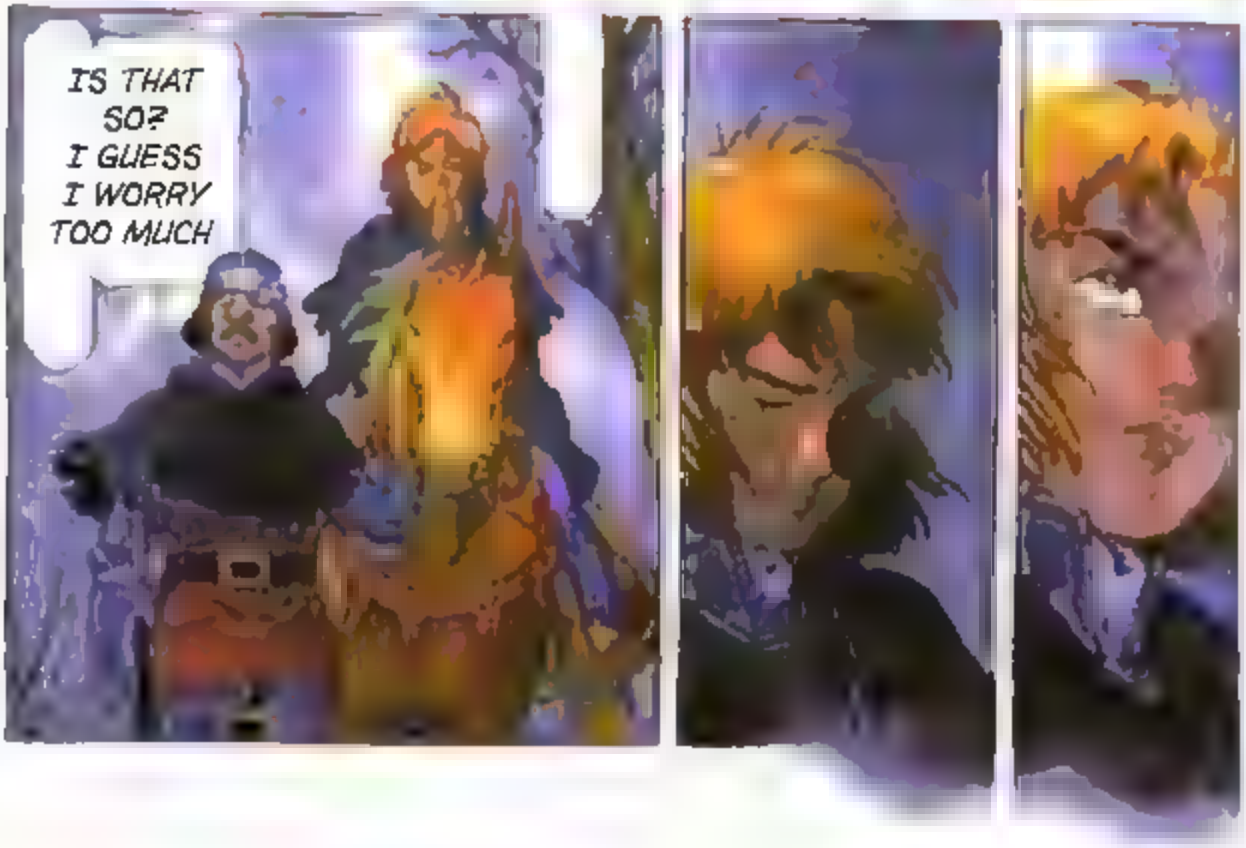
SHE ASKED ME TO PROTECT HIS MAJESTY
DO YOU BELIEVE ME
BERTRAND?
OF COURSE I DO.
SHE WAS A MES-SENGER OF GOD.
SHE WAS A TRUE SAINT.

I WASN'T REALLY RELIGIOUS.
SO, I THOUGHT IT WAS A JOKE.
YOU KNOW THAT, DON'T YOU?
I ACCOMPANIED HER TO CHINON.
JUST LOOKING AT HER MADE ME BELIEVE IN GOD.
IT'S KIND OF EMBARRASSING BUT.
YOU MUST HAVE BEEN DRAWN
NOT DIRECTLY TO GOD, BUT TO LA PUCELLE.

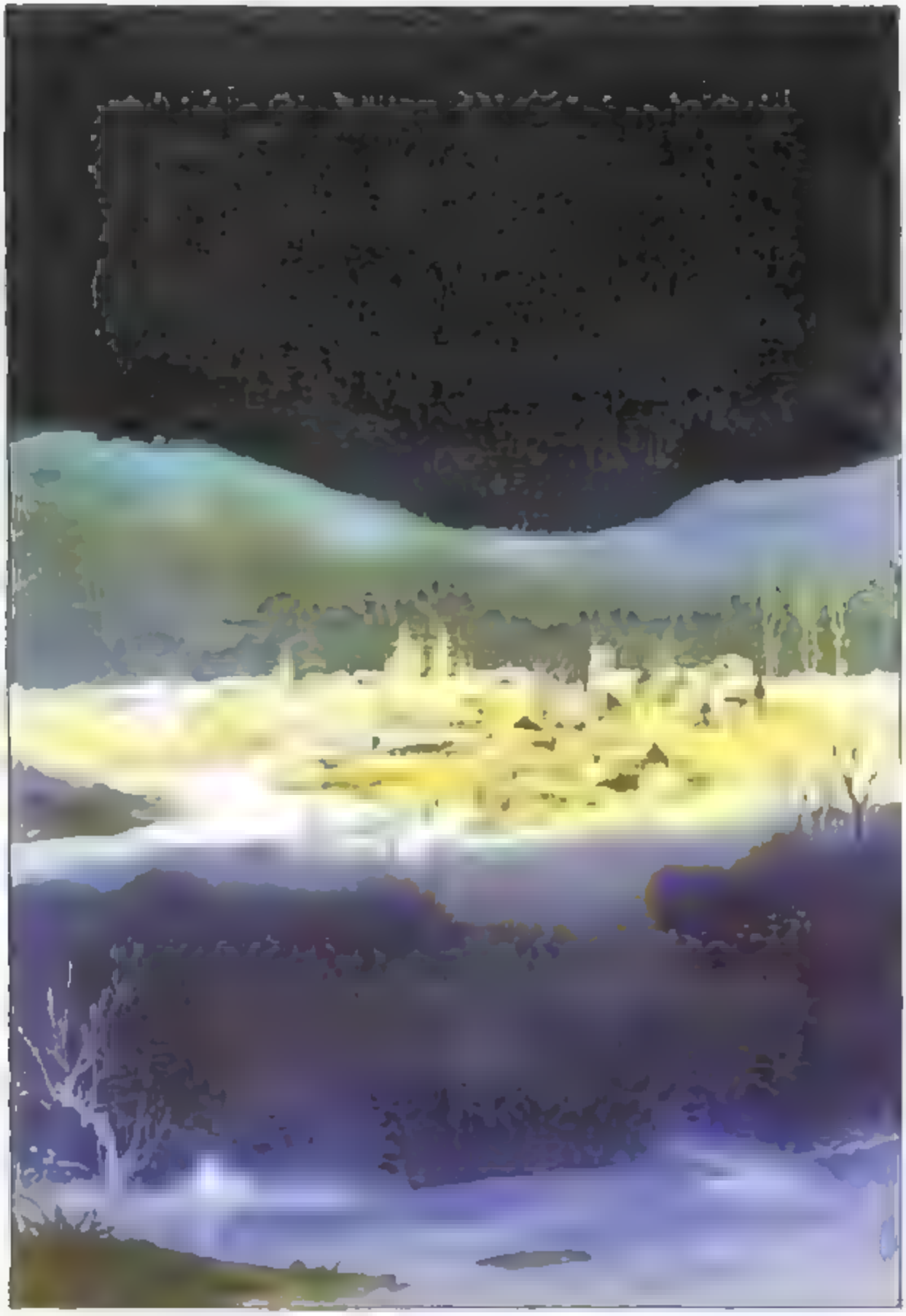
BUT TO TELL THE TRUTH,
I'M SORRY FOR YOU
I DON'T WANT YOU TO LEAVE, FOR GOD IS RUTHLESS.
IF GOD DIDN'T SAVE SUCH A KIND AND PIOUS GIRL FROM DEATH,
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO YOU.
I DON'T WANT ANY MORE CRUELTY.
WHY DON'T WE GIVE UP? I REALLY MEAN IT
EVEN IF YOU GO BACK, MSSR BAUDRI COURT..
IT'S GOING TO BE OKAY, BERTR AND
LIKE LA PUCELLE.
I WON'T BE..

PLEASE PROTECT THE KING
JUST AS I DID, WITH A BELIEF IN GOD'S WILL!

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS!
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS!

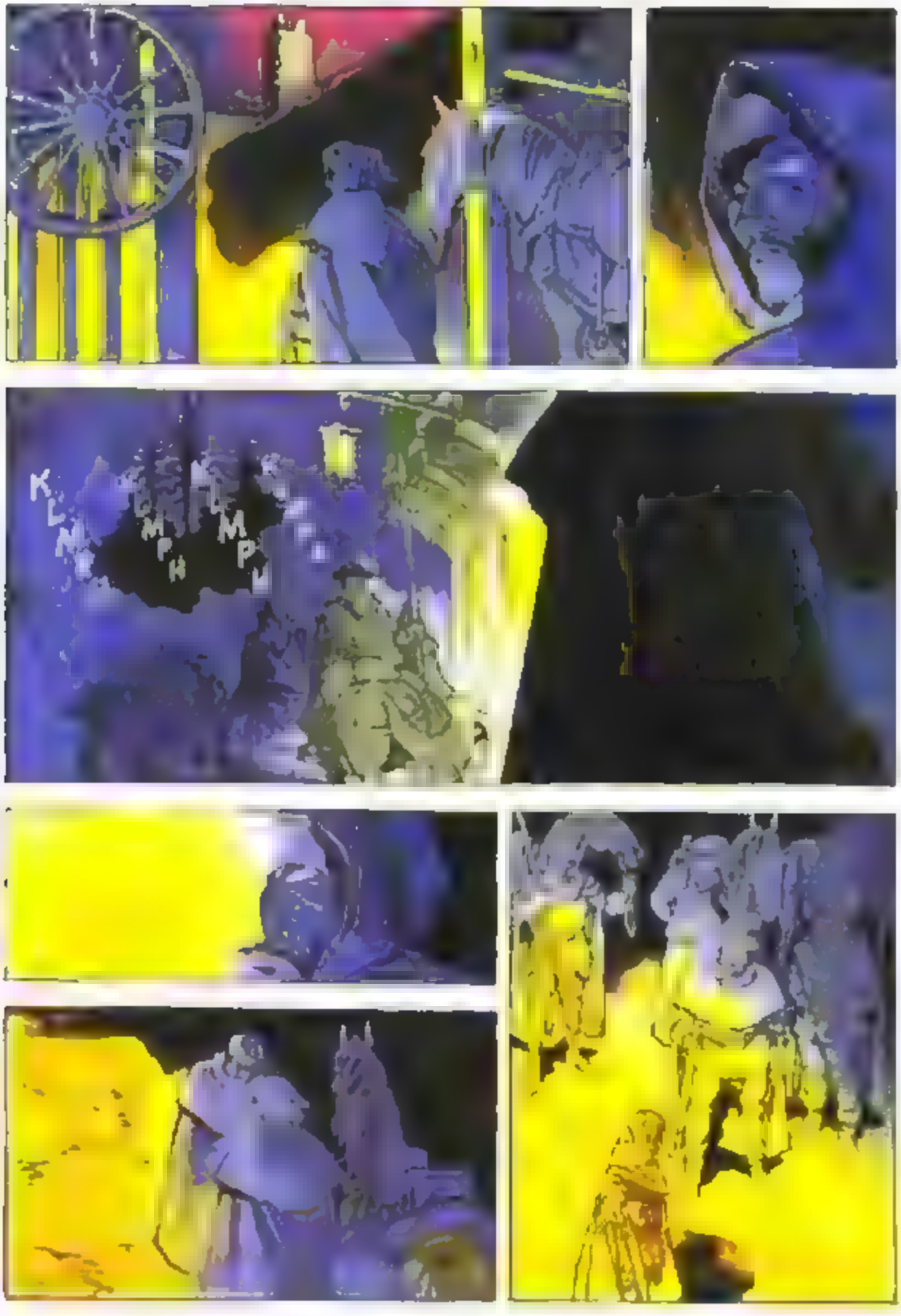

IS THAT SO? I GUESS I WORRY TOO MUCH

THE WEATHER IS GETTING BETTER.
IT'S A GOOD SIGN.
I GUESS LA PUCELLE IS TELLING US NOT TO WORRY.
YES.
PROBABLY.



Chapter 2

ORLEANS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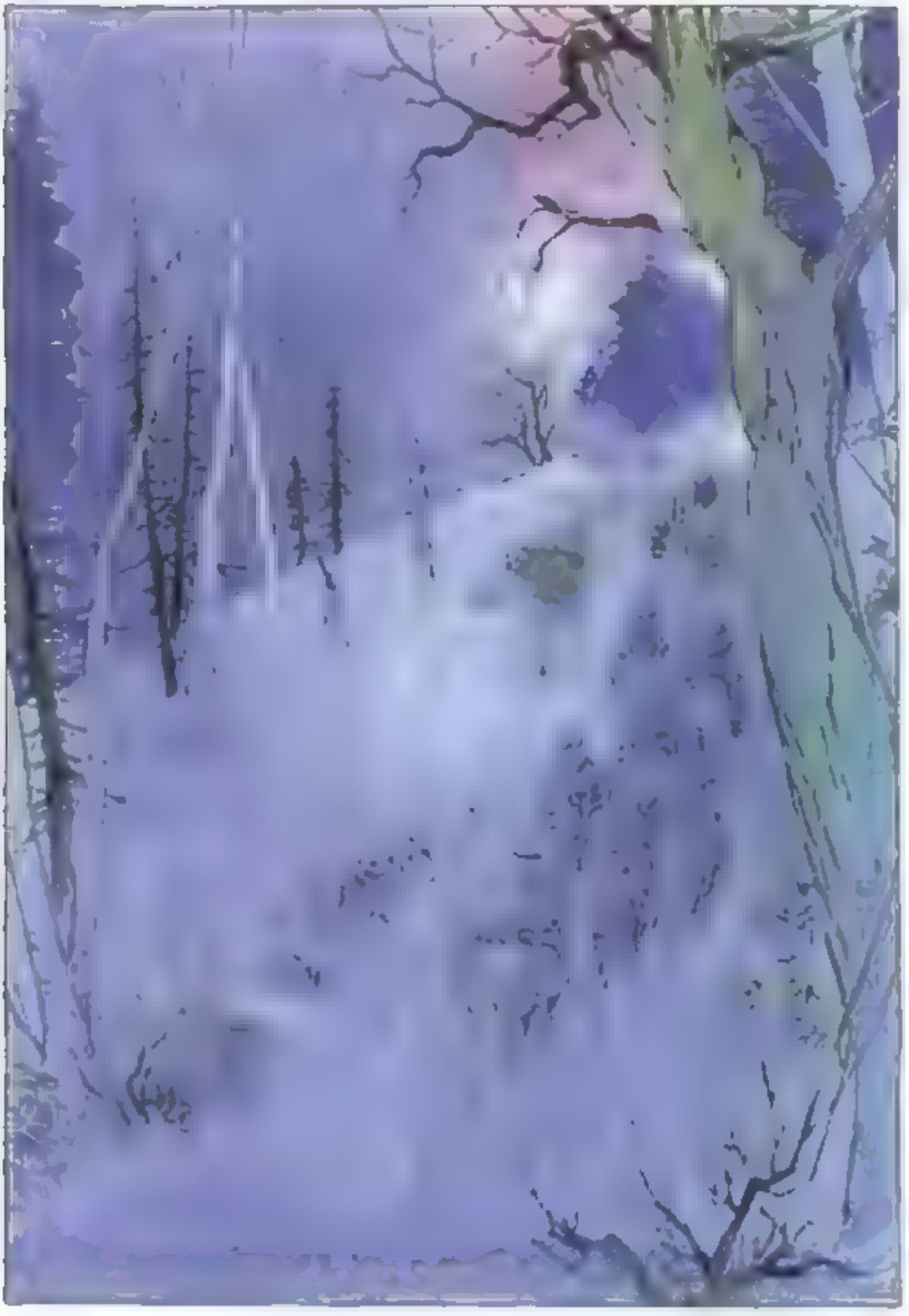


I REMEMBER THE TIME WE KEPT WALKING THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT.
THIS TIME IS EASIER, AT LEAST WE HAVE A PLACE TO SLEEP.
BACK THEN,
WE SLEPT OUTSIDE.
BERTRAND!
THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT WE'RE ALLOWED TO TAKE OUR TIME ON THIS JOURNEY!
THE CONSTABLE RICHEMONT ORDERED US TO COME TO HIS MAJESTY'S COURT IMMEDIATELY!
WE'VE GOT TO HURRY!

WE'LL KEEP RIDING 'TIL MORNING!!
FOLLOW ME!!
EMIL!!
PLEASE WAIT!
I DIDN'T MEAN TO SAY THAT THIS JOURNEY WAS EASY!
EMIL!

DAMN!
THEY
NOTICED?
KLMPH KLMPH

DON'T BE RASH!
I'LL APOLO-GIZE!!

WE DON'T HAVE ANY MORE HORSES!
WE CAN'T WEAR OUT THE HORSES WE HAVE NOW!!
PLEASE..
I GUESS I WASN'T RESPECTFUL.
HUSH!
!
!

KLMPH
KLMPH
KLMPH
KLMPH
UGHH
THOSE MEN WE PASSED AT THE HOTEL LOOKED SUSPICIOUS!
HIGHWAY-MEN!
DAMN! WE'RE THEIR TAR-GETS!
HEY!!
DON'T BE A COWARD!!
NO!

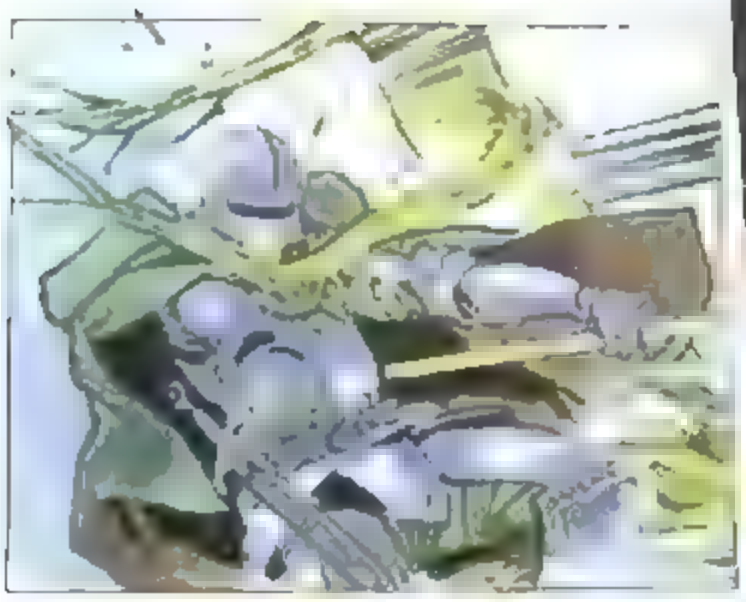
PROTECT
EMIL!
KLMPH
KLMPH
AHHHHHH
HHHHH!

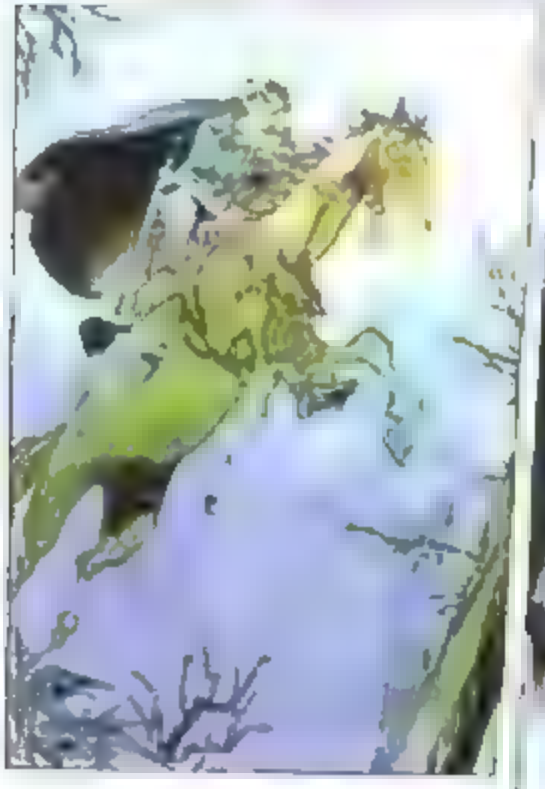
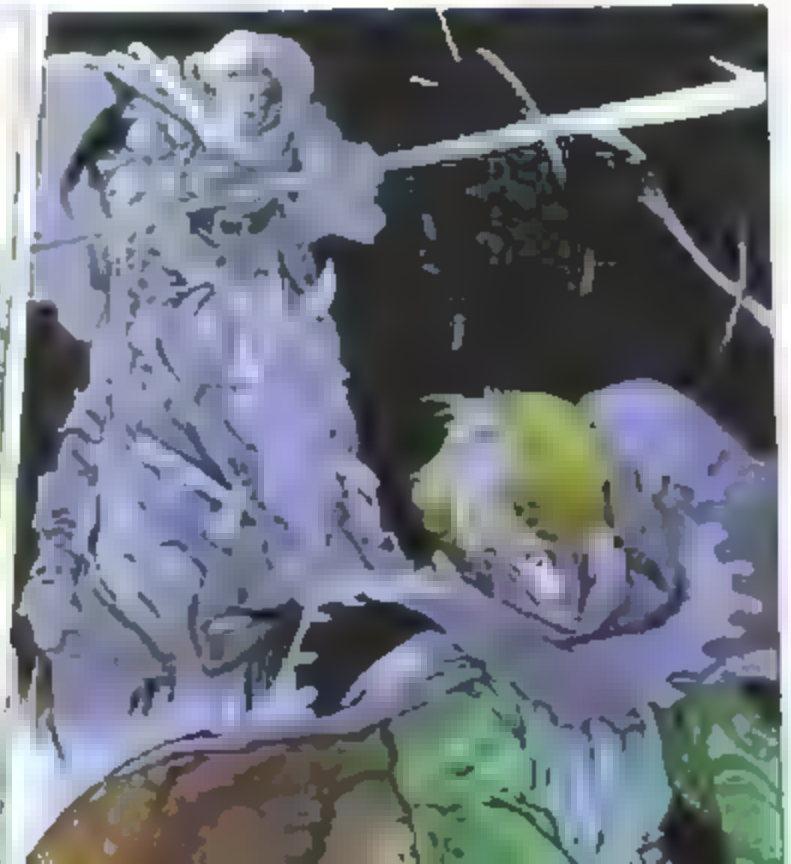
FLEE!
SCATTER AND TAKE FLIGHT!
NOW!

I SEE.
THIS IS THE LEADER.
GET HIM!!

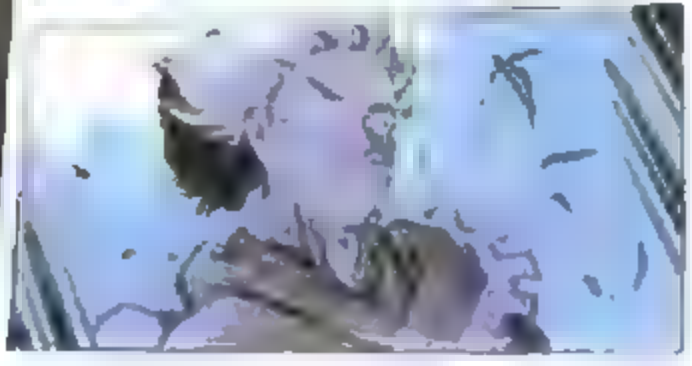
DON'T KILL THAT ONE!
CATCH HIM!!
YOU CAN MAKE GOOD MONEY ON HIM!!

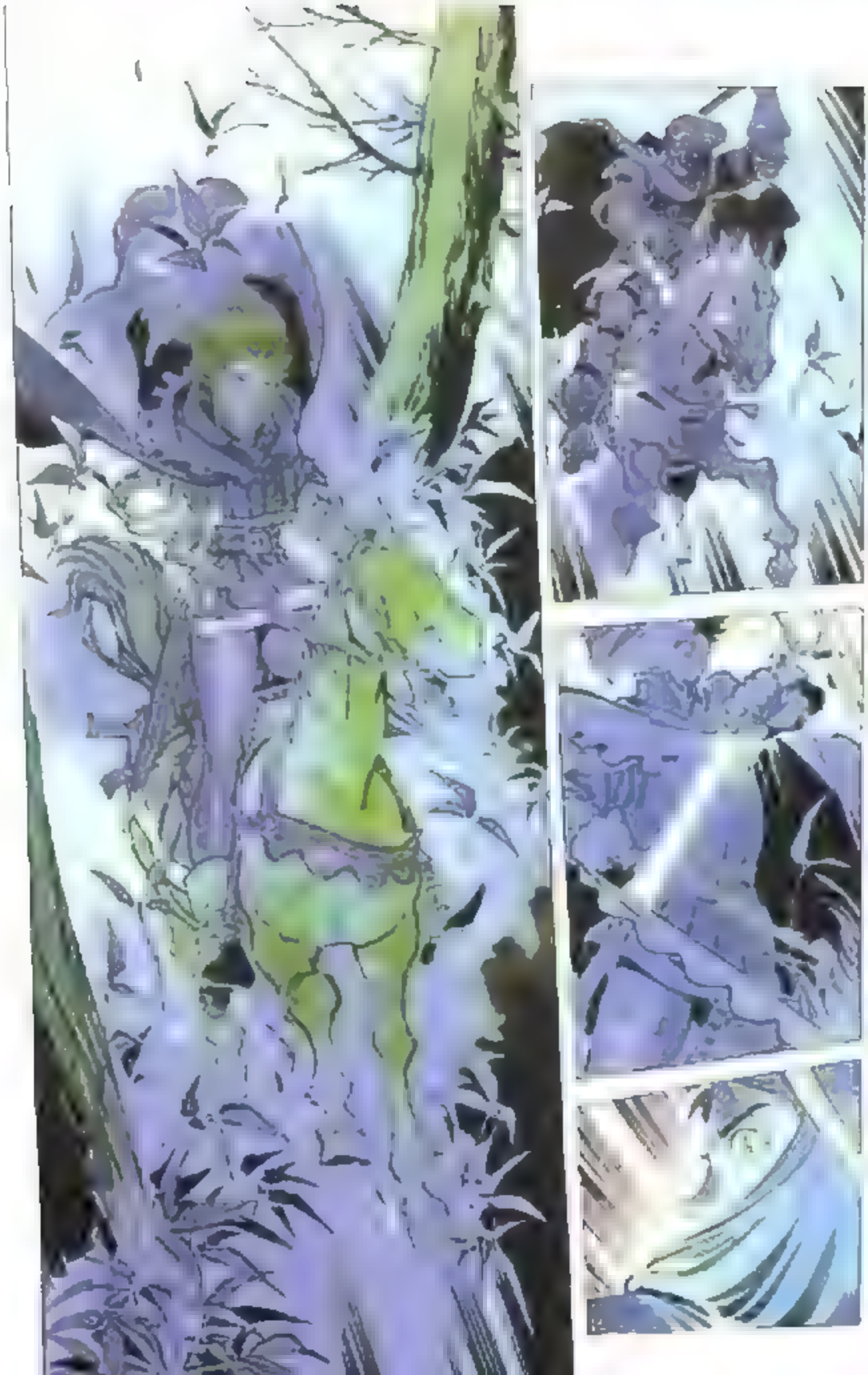
CLANG
CLANG
FLEE, BERTRAND!!
HAH-HA-HA

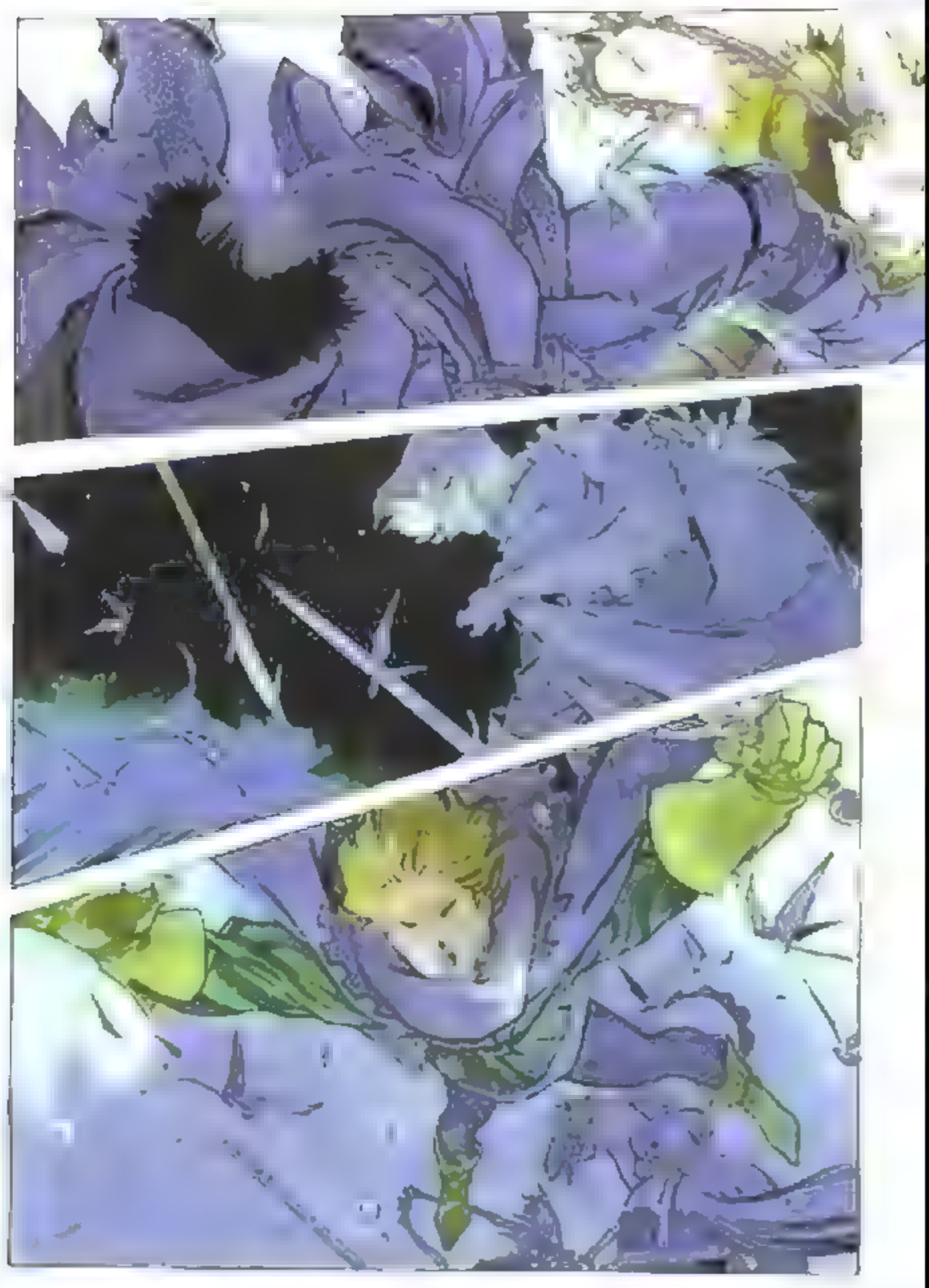


NO ONE CAN TOUCH HIM!!
HE'S MINE!!







BACK OFF!!
OTHERWISE I'LL
CUT OFF HIS HEAD!!

DO YOU WANT TO LIVE? CALL OFF YOUR MEN, OR YOU'RE A DEAD MAN!!
SAY THAT YOU SURRENDER!!
IF NOT...!
O... OKAY...
I SURRENDER. I'M DEFEATED.

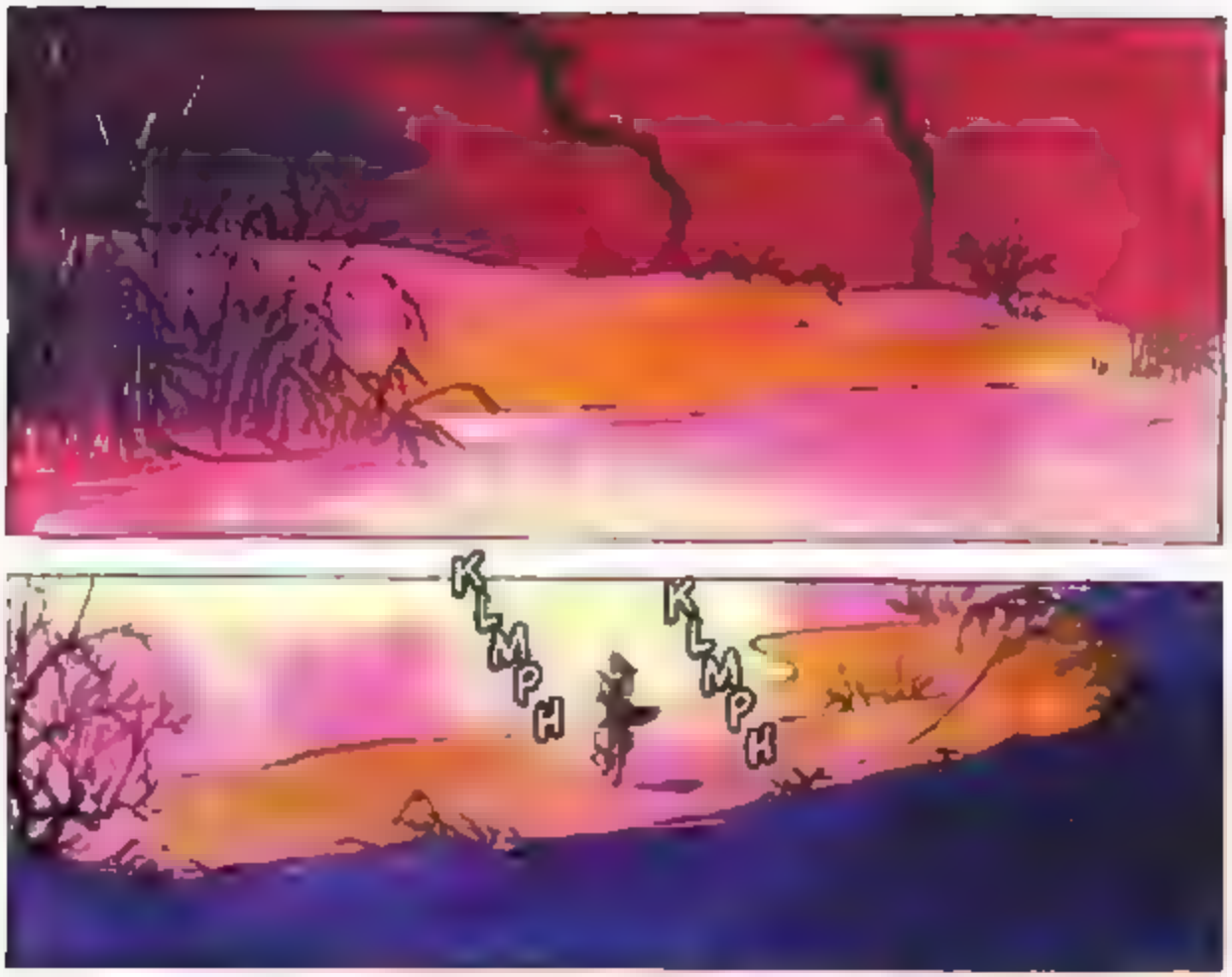
I'M REALLY SORRY.
HE WAS A GOOD GUY...

EXCUSE ME.
CAN I GO?
WHAT?
IT MIGHT BE STRANGE FOR A CAPTIVE TO ASK BUT...
COULD YOU TELL ME
WHO YOU ARE?
I'M A SON OF BAUDRI COURT, A CAP-TAIN OF VAUCOU
EMIL.
VAUCOU-LEURS?
DID HE SAY BAUDRI COURT?

I'VE HEARD OF IT.
THE GIRL...
THAT'S WHERE THE GIRL IS FROM.
BUT BAUDRI-COURT IS-
JUST A MAGIS-TRATE.
OH YEAH?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
YOU LOOK DIS-APPOINT-ED.
IT'S TOO BAD THAT HE WASN'T SOMEONE IMPORTANT TO TAKE AS A HOSTAGE
IT WAS BAD AIM..
I HAVE ONE MORE QUESTION
WHERE WERE YOU, A SON OF SOMEONE CALLED BAUDR-ICOURT, HEADING FOR IN SECRET?
WHAT'S YOUR PUR-POSE?
WE'RE ON THE WAY TO HIS MAJESTY'S COURT UNDER THE ORDER OF THE CONSTABLE
WE ARE FOR FRANCE!
SO, IS THIS FOR SOME-THING
PROFI-TABLE?

SHAME ON YOU!
HOLD ON, BERTRAND!
IF IT'S PROFITABLE,
DO YOU WANT TO BE ON HIS MAJESTY'S SIDE?
CERTAINLY.
I SURRENDERED TO YOU, SO
I'LL FOLLOW YOU
BUT
I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT. MONEY, RIGHT?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
FOLLOW ME!
REALLY?
YEAH
I'LL TALK TO HIS MAJESTY'S FINANCIAL COMMISSIONER

ORLEANS IS A LITTLE BIT FURTHER,
PAST THIS RIVER...
HEY,
ARE YOU SURE IT'S APPRO-PRIATE
TO BRING A MAN LIKE THAT?
ALAS.
ORLEANS!

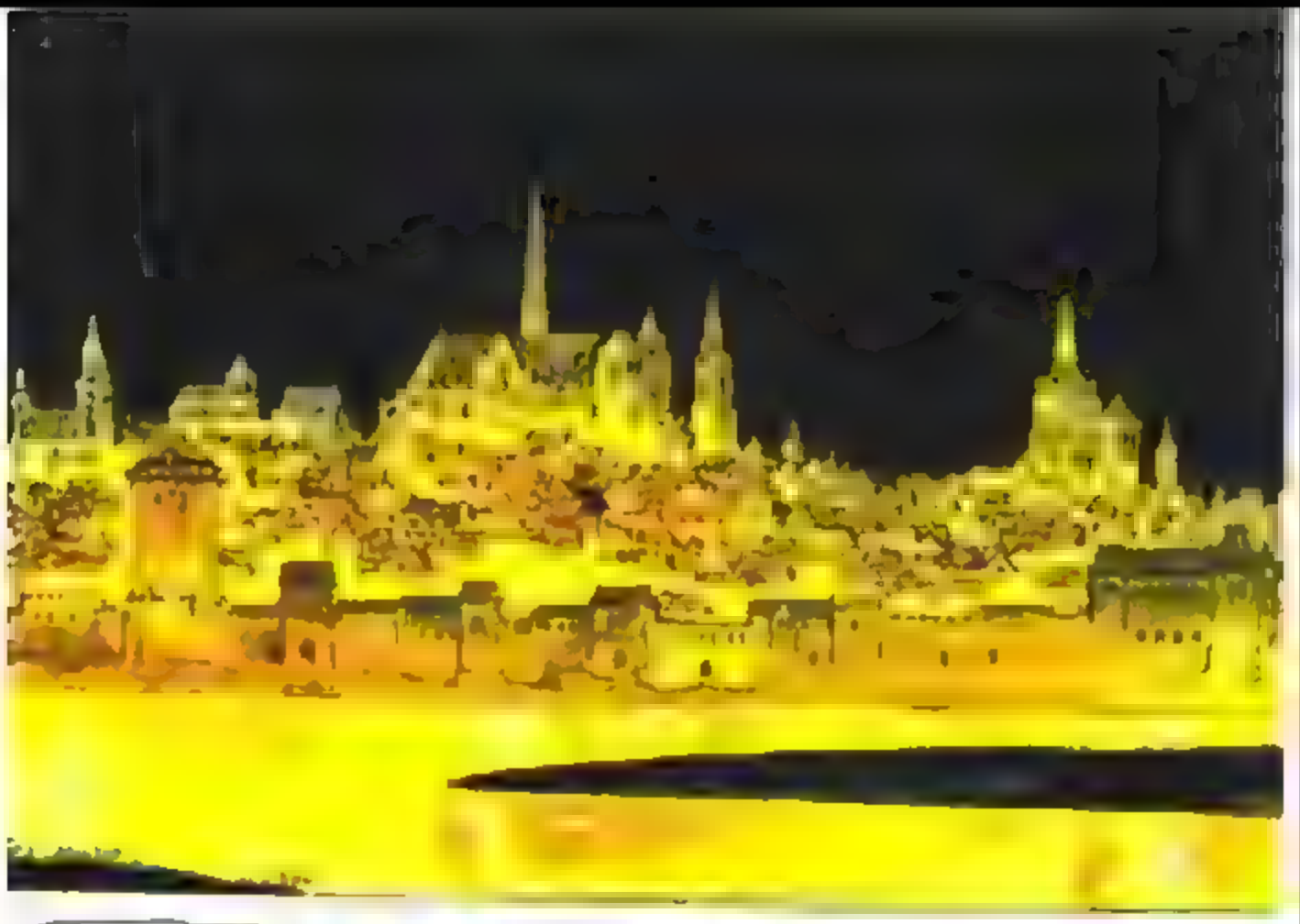

KLMPH
KLMPH
ARE YOU PIERRE?
HOW IS THE TOWN?
IT'S BUSTLING!
THE DUKE OF ORLEANS IS COMING BACK FROM ENGLAND
AND EVERYONE IS PREPARING FOR THE CELEBRATION!

DUKE CHARLES D'ORLEANS*? IS COMING BACK?
YES
I HEARD THAT HE IS IN CALAIS RIGHT NOW
THE PEOPLE WERE NOT SURE WHEN HE WOULD COME BACK TO ORLEANS.
HOW ABOUT HIS TROOPS?
OF COURSE, THERE ARE MANY OF THEM
SINCE THE BASTARD OF ORLEANS* IS FOR THE DAUPHIN, MANY FEUDAL LORDS ARE GATHERING IN THE TOWN
IT'S A CRUSH

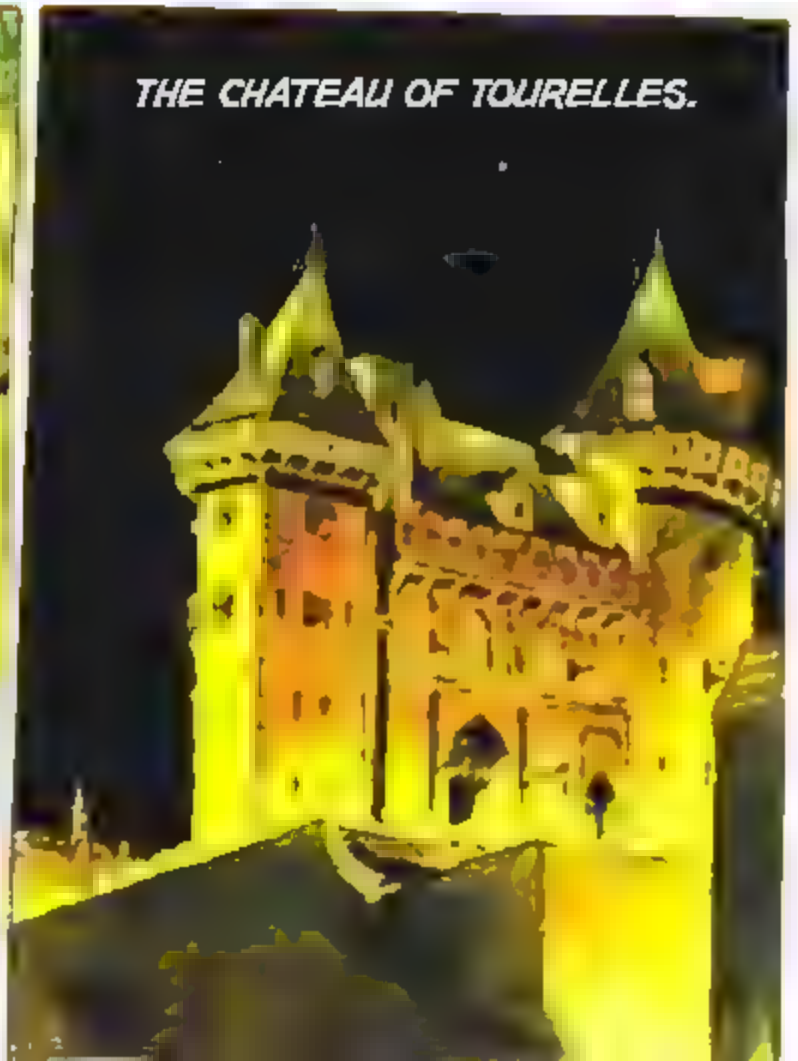
AS HE TOLD US,
YOU CAN'T STOP IN ORLEANS!
IT'S TOO RISKY AND
WE DON'T HAVE TIME!
BUT...
ORLEANS...
YOU SAID THAT YOU WISHED TO KEEP RIDING THROUGH THE NIGHT
TO GET TO HIS MAJE-STY'S COURT!!
HEY, BER-TRAND
YOU SHOULD BE MORE
RES-PECTFUL TO THE YOUNG MAN.

IF THERE IS A CHANCE TO HAVE FUN GO AHEAD, ENJOY AND THEN WORK
THAT'S WHAT'S IMPOR-TANT IN LIFE
YOU CAN'T MISS AN ATMOSPHERE AS JUBILANT AS ORLEANS.
SHUT UP!
YOU HIGHWAY-MAN!
WHAT!
STOP!
BOTH OF YOU!!

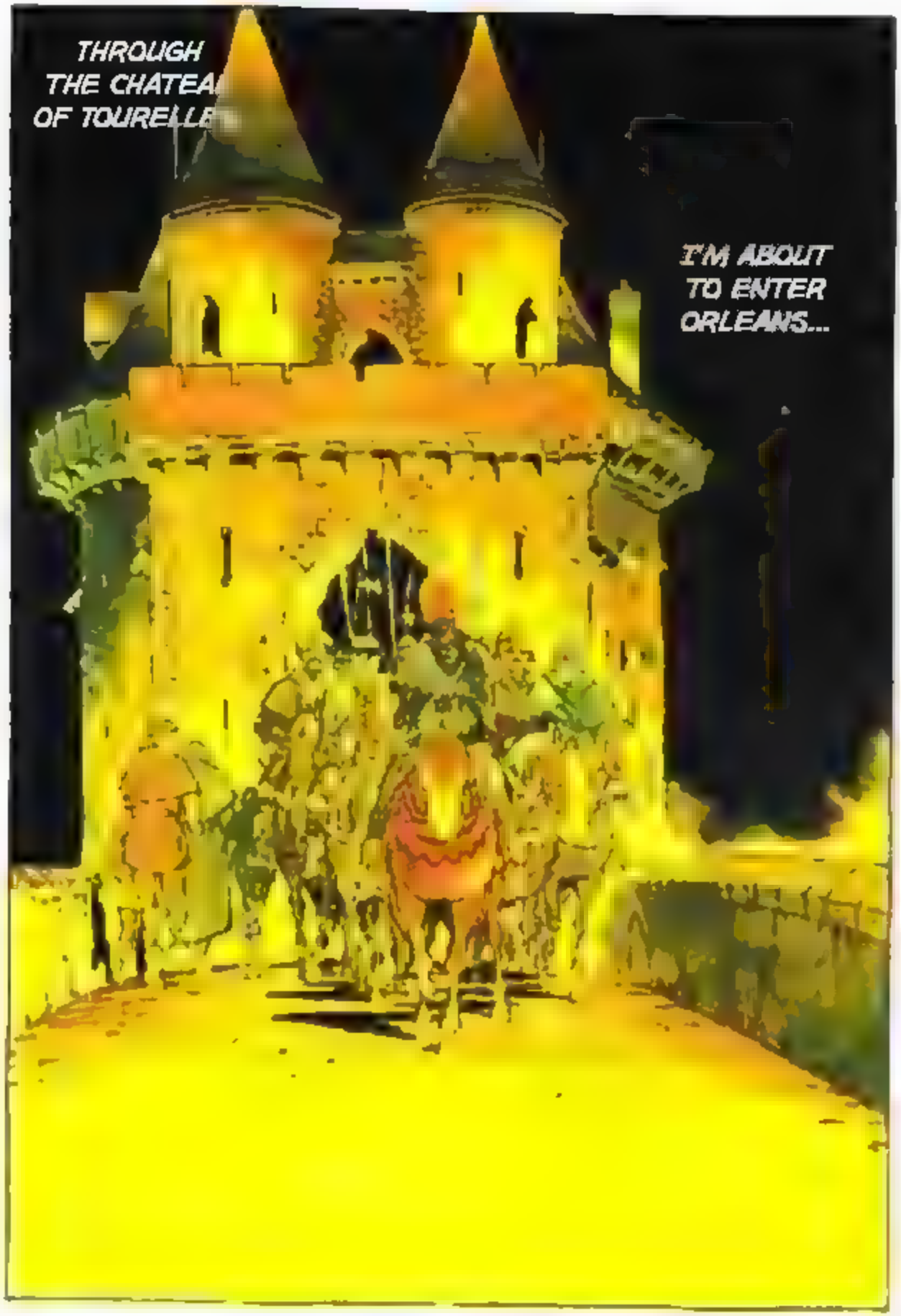
IT'S GETTING DARK.
WE'VE BEEN WALKING ALL DAY LONG, EVERYONE MUST BE EXHAUSTED.
NOW THAT WE'RE HERE, CAMPING OUT HERE OR SLEEPING IN A LODGE IN ORLEANS WILL BE THE SAME ANYWAY.
LET'S GO TO THE TOWN.
I LIKE YOUR LEADER-SHIP.
GREAT DECI-SION!!
ONE THING!
LISTEN, GALSON!
BEHAVE YOUR-SELF IN THE TOWN!
IF EVEN ONE OF YOUR MEN CAUSES TROUBLE,
I'LL CUT YOUR THROAT!!
YES.
HEHE HE
I KNOW.



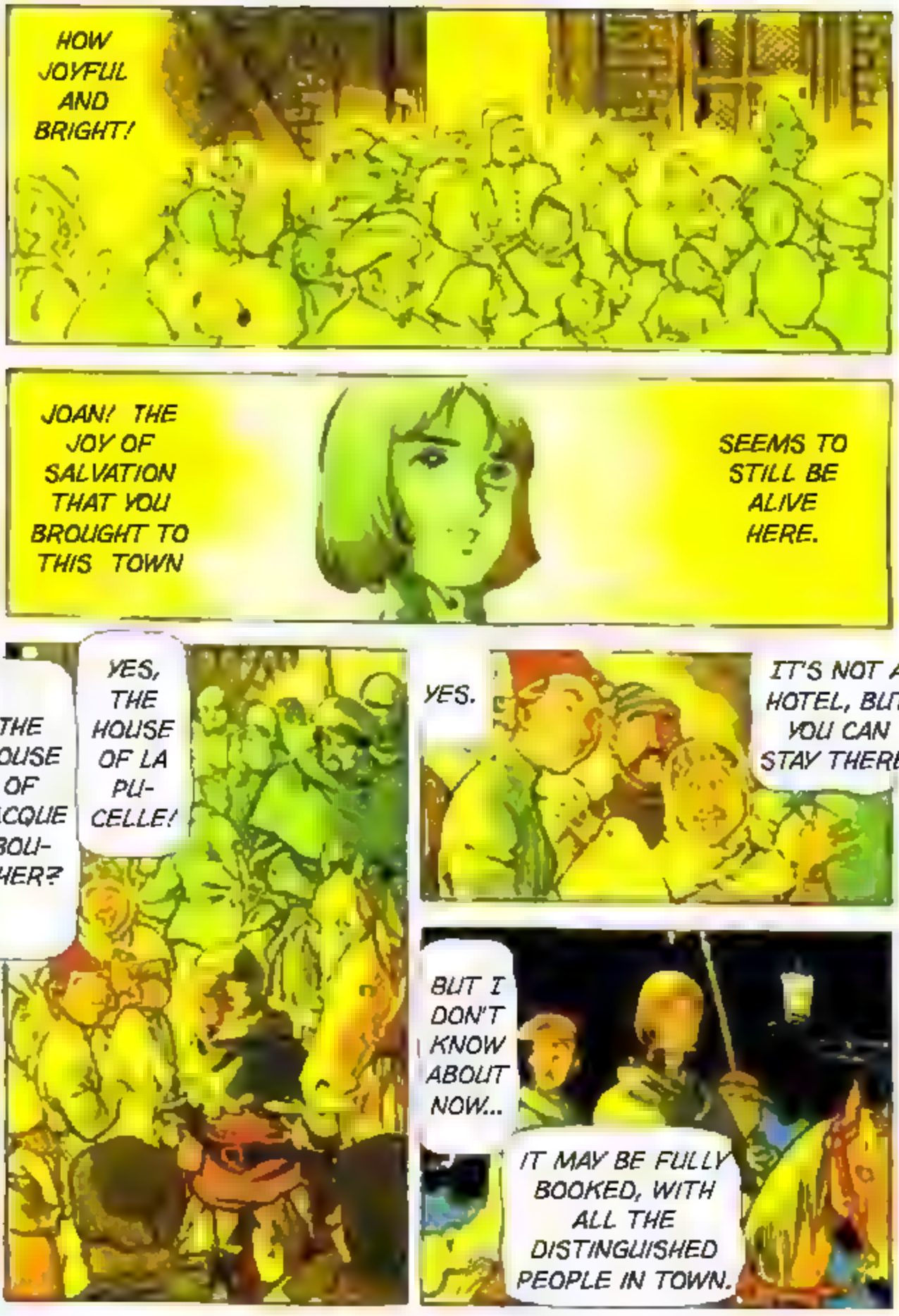
THIS IS... ORLEANS...
THEN.


THE CHATEAU OF TOURELLES.

THE CHATEAU OF TOURELLES,
THIS IS THE BATTLEFIELD WHERE
LA PUCELLE BROKE THROUGH
THE SIEGE OF ORLEANS,
SHEDDING HER OWN BLOOD...


THROUGH THE CHATEA
OF TOURELLE
I'M ABOUT TO ENTER ORLEANS...

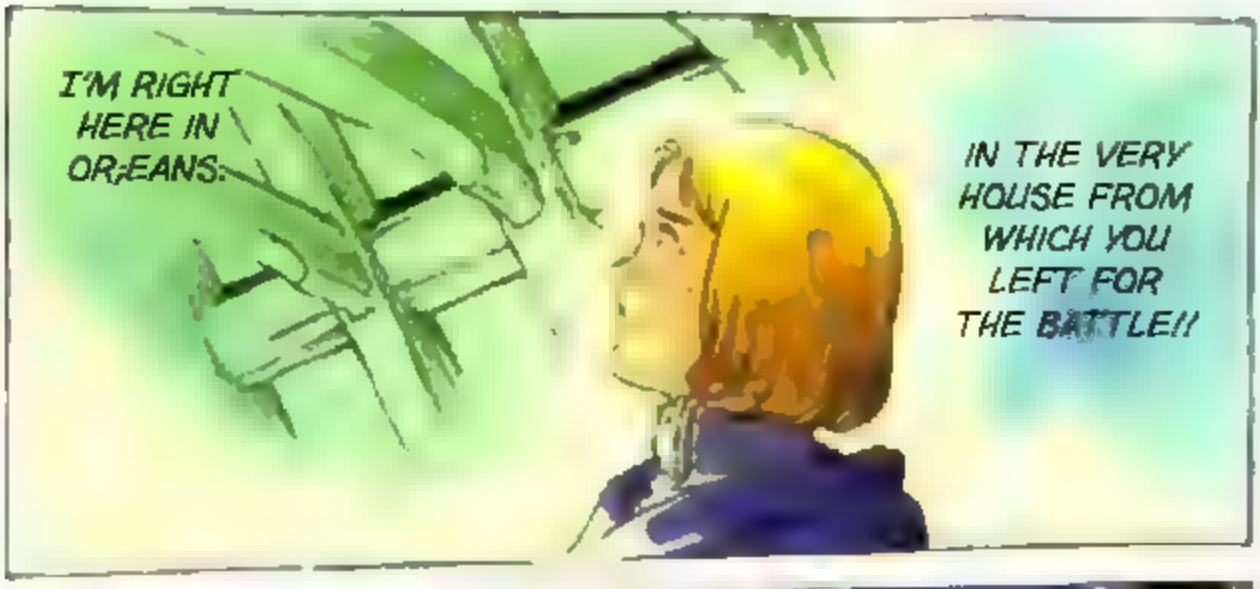
WHAT A
LIVELY TOWN!


HOW JOYFUL AND BRIGHT!
JOAN! THE JOY OF SALVATION THAT YOU BROUGHT TO THIS TOWN
SEEMS TO STILL BE ALIVE HERE.
THE HOUSE OF JACQUE BOU-CHER?
YES, THE HOUSE OF LA PU-CELLE!
YES.
IT'S NOT A HOTEL, BUT YOU CAN STAY THERE.
BUT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT NOW...
IT MAY BE FULLY BOOKED, WITH ALL THE DISTINGUISHED PEOPLE IN TOWN.

UNFOR-
TUNATELY,
WE'RE HOSTING THE DUKE OF ALENCON* AND HIS PARTY TONIGHT.
WE'RE FULL.
THE DUKE
OF ALEN CON!
YOU CAN'T BEAT THEM.
LET'S FIND SOME-WHERE ELSE

HEY,
HEY YOU.
YES.
YOU.
I HEAR YOU'RE RELATED TO BAUDRI-COURT
WELL, THAT'S A DIFFERENT STORY.
IF YOU DON'T MIND STAYING IN THE ATTIC,
I'LL MAKE A SPECIAL ARRANGE-MENT FOR YOU,
BUT I DON'T HAVE A ROOM FOR YOUR PARTY.
THEY MAY SLEEP AT A NEARBY BARN OR SOME-THING.
EH!

ALAS...
JOAN!


I'M RIGHT HERE IN ORLEANS.
IN THE VERY HOUSE FROM WHICH YOU LEFT FOR THE BATTLE!!

IS THE ORLEANS YOU SAW AT THAT TIME,
FILLED WITH BRIGHT LIGHTS?

NO, THERE MUST HAVE BEEN MANY MORE LIGHTS, MORE JOY THAN THIS.
SURROUNDING ALL THE PEOPLE WHO WERE WAITING FOR YOU...
.....
.....

JOAN!
DON'T MOVE.
JUST LISTEN.

WHY DID YOU COME HERE, EMIL?
YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE COME TO ORLEANS.
GO NOW!
YOU CAN'T BE HERE!

Chapter 3

LOUIS

YOU'VE JUMPED RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR ENEMY! TAKE FLIGHT!

FLEE!
NO, EMIL.
DON'T FOLLOW MY PATH AND LOSE EVERYTHING TO KEEP MY MEMORY!!!
YOU CAN LEAVE THAT TO SOMEONE ELSE!
JOAN..
I'M SORRY!
JOAN!

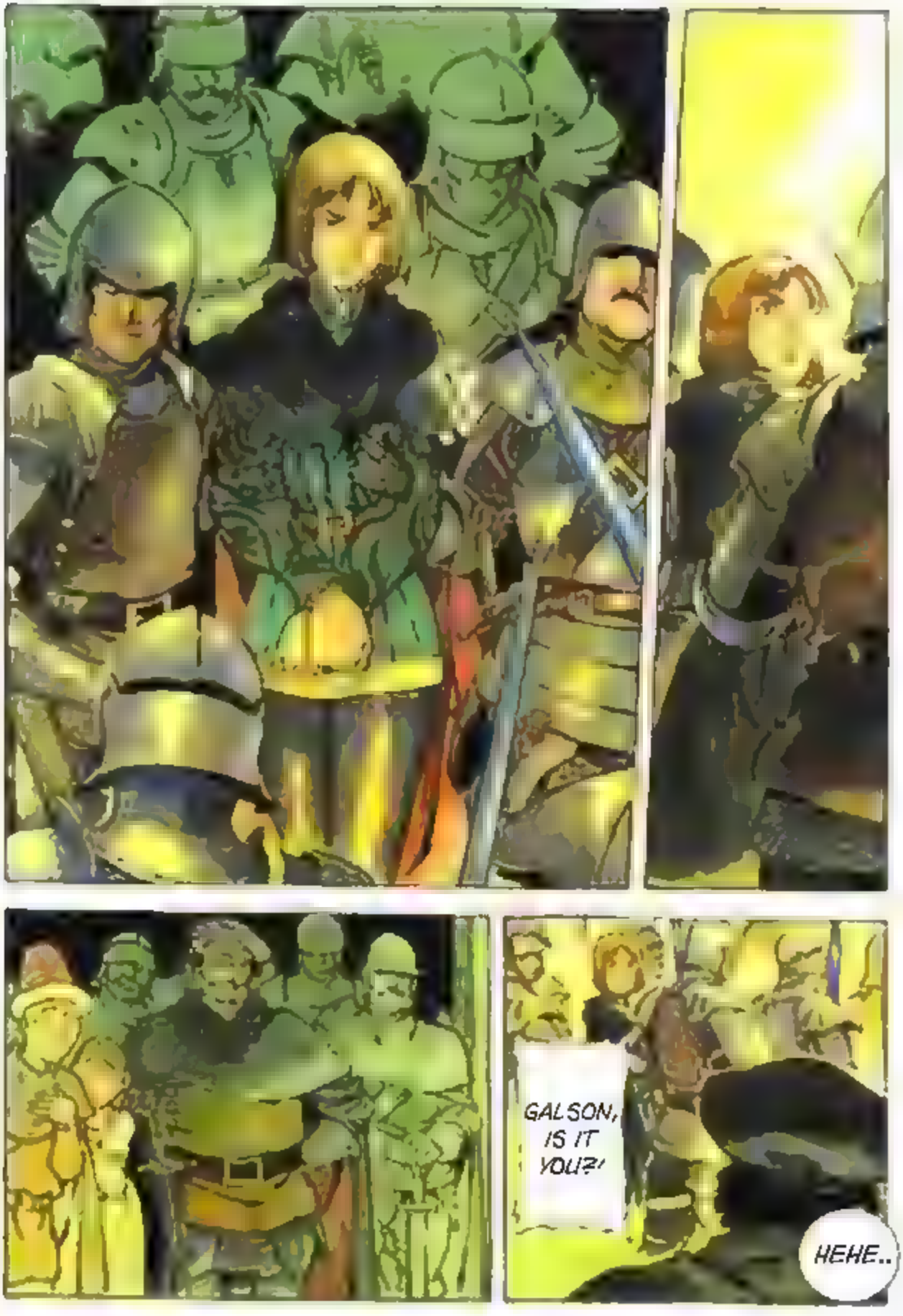
NOW I'M AWAKE!
IT WASN'T MEANT TO BE LIKE THIS...
BUT GRAD-UALLY...
JOAN...?
JOAN?

JOAN?
LA PUC-ELLE!
CLOAK
CLOAK
CLOAK
CLOAK

CLANK
CLANK
CLANK
CLANK

OPEN THE DOOR!
WE'LL BREAK DOWN THE DOOR IF YOU DON'T OPEN UP!!
BANG

WHAT'S GOING ON?
IT'S NOISY UP-STAIRS.
YES...
THE YOUNG MAN WHOM I LET STAY LAST NIGHT..
SEEMS TO BE A SPY SENT BY THE KING...
HE IS RELAT-ED TO BAUDRI-COURT,
SO I...
BAUDRI-COURT?
CLANK


GALSON, IS IT YOU?!
HEHE..

DON'T BE UPSET
THE DAUPHIN'S FACTION IS SAYING THAT THEY CAN PAY ME.
HOWEVER MUCH I WANT IMMEDIATELY.
THIS IS A BETTER DEAL FOR ME THAN YOURS.
IF YOU CAN,
YOU SHOULD JOIN THE DAUPHIN'S FACTION
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THEY SAY THE KING'S PLIGHT IS ALMOST HOPELESS.
SHUT UP!!
BETRAYER!

HELLO,
DUKE ALENCON.
NO
NOT REALLY.
DID YOU SLEEP WELL?
THERE WAS AN ARREST AT BOUCHER'S HOUSE.
REALLY?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
NOTHING IMPORTANT, DUKE.

WE CAN'T LOCATE THE KING NOW.
I WONDER WHERE HE'S RUNNING TO.
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE HE IS!!
JUST KILL RICHE-MONT!!
HE IS SHEL-TERING THE KING, AFTER ALL!
WHO CARES!
LET'S ATTACK THEM!!

YOU WANT TO USE FORCE AGAIN, LA HIRE*?
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY STRATEGY BESIDES THAT?
RICHE-MONT IS A CLEVER MAN.
HE'LL TRICK YOU IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL.
WE SHOULD HAVE CAUGHT HIM AT THE CONFERENCE OF BLOIS.
BAST-ARD!
THERE'S NO POINT IN SAYING THAT NOW!!
ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID BEFORE,
THE YOUNG MAN WHO WAS ARRESTED AT BOUCHER'S HOUSE.
IF IT IS TRUE THAT HE IS A SPY FROM THE KING...
BRING HIM HERE!!
MM!
HE MIGHT KNOW SOME-THING!

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT.

THWMPH
IF YOU PLAY INNO-CENT,
YOU'LL GET HURT!!

HOLD ON, LA HIRE!

LA HIRE!?

YOU ARE THE FAM-OUS
GENE-RAL LA HIRE?
YE...
YES.
YOU SHOULD KNOW US. THIS IS DUKE CHARLES DE BOURBON.*
I'M THE BAS-TARD OF OR-LEANS.
I'M THE FORMER CHAMB-ERLAIN,
LA TREMOILLE.*
I'M
POTON DE XAINTRAILLES*.
ALENCON.
AHH..
AND YOU....?

I DON'T UNDER-STAND!
WHY?
WHY
ARE GREAT PEOPLE LIKE YOU AGAINST KING CHARLES?
YOU ARE THE ONES WHO ATTENDED HIS CORONATION!!
DIDN'T YOU FIGHT WITH THE GIRL AGAINST THE ENGLISH,
SHEDDING BLOOD
FOR THE KING?

YOU SHOULD-N'T FIGHT AGAINST YOUR COUNTRY-MEN!
YOU'VE FINALLY RECOVERED PARIS AND ARE CLOSE TO
THE DEFEAT OF ENG-LAND!
MM..
SHUT UP!
YOU INSO-LENT FELLOW!!

LISTEN! YOU'RE A PRISONER NOW!
DON'T FORGET THAT!!
YOU'RE JUST A NOTHING!
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE PREACHING TO!!
WAIT.
INTER-ESTING.
LET HIM...
CONTINUE.

CONTINUE.
I WANT TO HEAR MORE
YES.
WE SHOULD STOP THESE USELESS BATTLES.
THE WAR HAS LASTED ALMOST A HUNDRED YEARS. THE PEOPLE AND LANDS ARE EXHAUSTED.
ALL THE MONEY IN THE COUNTRY HAS BEEN SPENT ON THE WAR: THE PEOPLE ARE STARVING,
DISEASE IS RAMPANT, PEOPLE LIVE IN FEAR OF LOOTERS AND HIGHWAYMEN!
NOW IS THE TIME TO COOPERATE WITH EACH OTHER AND GATHER UNDER KING CHARLES. HE WAS SELECTED BY GOD!
WE SHOULD DEFEAT THE ENGLISH AND UNITE OUR COUNTRY!
THAT IS... .
THE DESIRE OF LA PUCELLE,
WHO DIED FOR GOD
HMM.

IS THAT ALL?
EVERY-ONE!
LEAVE!
GET OUT OF THIS ROOM!
I WANT TO TALK TO THIS YOUNG MAN A LITTLE MORE

SQEAK
SQEAK
AND YOU ARE?
DAU-PHIN.
LOUIS.

BANG
YOU'RE A WOMAN?
IF YOU DO ANY-THING ELSE,
I'LL BITE MY TONGUE OFF!

YOU SMELL LIKE A WOMAN!!
YOU MUST BE A WOMAN!
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
WHAT'S YOUR REAL NAME?
...EMIL.
EMIL DE BAUDRI-COURT.

MMM.
OKAY.
THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH.
HOW OLD ARE YOU,
EMIL DE BAUDRI-COURT?
SEVEN-TEEN.
MM.
THE SAME AS ME.
YOU'RE NOT STRONG ENOUGH FOR SEVEN-TEEN!
EH?
EMIL DE BAUDRI-COURT!!

LA PUC-ELLE JOAN WAS ALSO
RELATED TO BAUDRI-COURT.
DID YOU
KNOW HER?
!
I KNOW HER VERY WELL.
BUT!
WHAT YOU SAID WAS TOTALLY WRONG!
HMM. THAT'S WHY.
YOU FORGOT YOUR PLACE AND TOLD US SUCH A STORY, I GUESS

WHAT DID I SAY THAT WAS WRONG?
FIRST OF ALL, ABOUT MY FATHER.
HE'S NOT A MAN WHOM GOD WOULD CHOOSE.
HE'S JUST A COWARD! THAT'S WHY HE LEFT JOAN TO HER FATE!!
IF I HAD BEEN KING,
IF I HAD BEEN BORN FIVE YEARS EARLIER,
I WOULD HAVE FOUGHT WITH THE TROOPS
AND WOULD HAVE TAKEN HER BACK FROM THE ENGLISH!

THERE'S MORE. YOU SAID THAT PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING FROM THE WAR...
YOU SAID WE SHOULD STOP FIGHTING.
BUT
DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT THEY HATE FIGHTING?
ONLY LOSERS HATE FIGHTING! IF YOU KNOW YOU'LL WIN, YOU'LL FIGHT!
IT IS HUMAN NATURE TO FIGHT, TO GAIN WEALTH FROM THE ENEMY, TO TRY TO BE AS STRONG AND RICH AS POSSIBLE!
IT WAS THE SAME AS LA PUCELLE.
SHE ENCOURAGED SOLDIERS TO GO ONTO BATTLEFIELDS AND FOUGHT WITH THEM, SHEDDING BLOOD WITH HER OWN HANDS!
SHE LIKED WAR!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!!

CHOOSING TO LEAVE HER VILLAGE WAS A DIFFICULT DECISION FOR JOAN!
SHE ALWAYS DREAMED OF GOING BACK THERE, EVEN DURING HER BATTLE TO SAVE AND UNITE FRANCE!
EH!
THEN I HAVE A QUESTION. WHY DOES FRANCE HAVE TO BE UNITED
AND DEFEAT ENG-LAND?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HAVING SEPARATE COUNTRIES LIKE BURGUNDY, ARMAGNAC, AND BRITTANY?
SINCE KING WILLIAM CON-QUERED, THE ROYAL FAMILIES OF ENGLAND AND FRANCE HAVE SHARED BLOOD. WHY IS IT WRONG FOR THEM TO BE ONE NOW?
THE WAR WOULD HAVE ALREADY ENDED IF EITHER ONE OF THEM WAS GOING TO BE CHOSEN, DON'T YOU THINK?

YOUR LOGIC WON'T WORK.
BUT
THE ANS-WER IS CLEAR TO ME.
THE STRONG ONE
WINS.
GOD DOESN'T JUDGE, HE JUST BLESSES THE WINNER. IF THE WINNER
PRAISES GOD,
IF HE USES THE WEALTH HE'S GAINED TO BUILD A CHURCH THAT REACHES TO THE SKY, ON HIS NEW TERRITORY, AND GIVES THE PRIESTS GOLDEN ROBES, THEN GOD IS HAPPY.
THAT'S AN AWFUL IDEA!
I'M DIS-APPOINTED IN YOU, DAUPHIN!
BUT
THAT'S THE TRUTH!!
THUD

IF THERE IS A GOD TO SUPPORT FRANCE, THERE MUST BE ONE FOR ENGLAND. SO,
I DON'T NEED GOD'S HELP AT ALL!!
SH TK
I'LL DEFEAT ENG-LAND,
AND MAKE THE DUKE OF BUR-GUNDY KNEEL DOWN TO ME.

LA PUCELLE WASN'T FOR YOU!

HOW
DO YOU KNOW?

SHE ORDERED ME
TO PROTECT KING CHARLES!

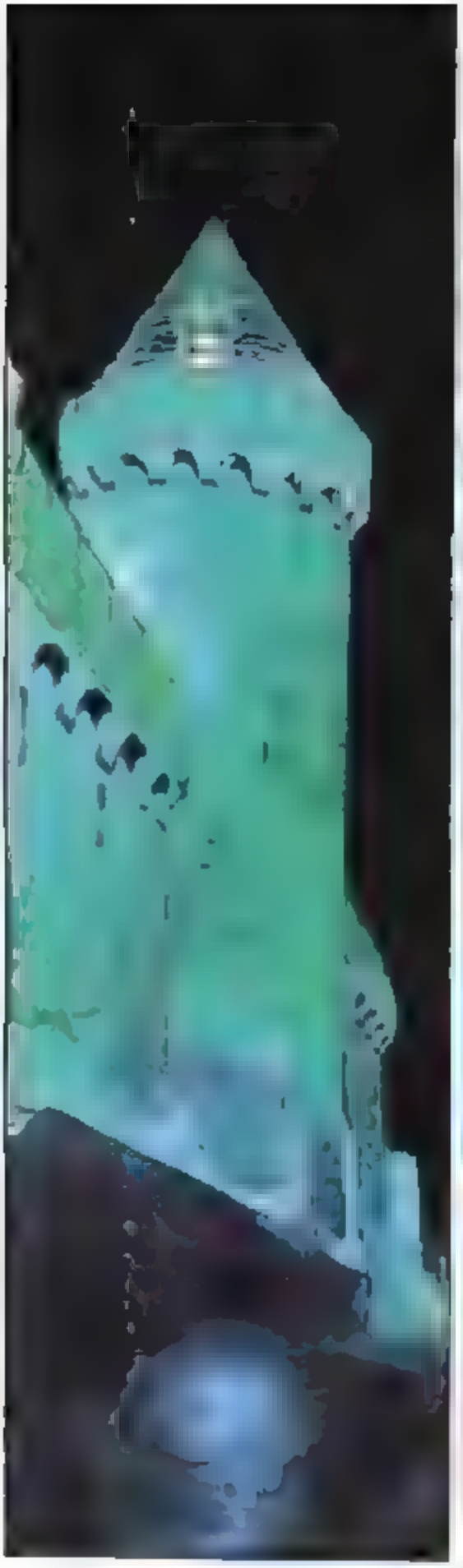
DON'T BE CRAZY!!

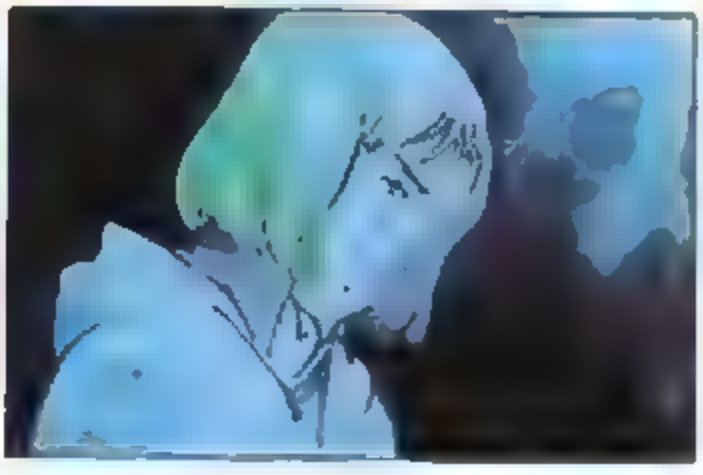
I HEARD THAT THERE ARE WITCHES AROUND LORRAINE.
ARE YOU ONE OF THEM? OR.

ARE YOU JUST A CRAZY COUNTRY GIRL WHO WANTS TO BE LA PUCELLE?
IF YOU'RE NEITHER ONE, YOU SHOULD KNOW WHERE MY FATHER IS!
TELL ME!
WHERE WERE YOU GOING TO MEET HIM?
WH
AP

MY LORD!
WHAT HAP-PENED?!
...

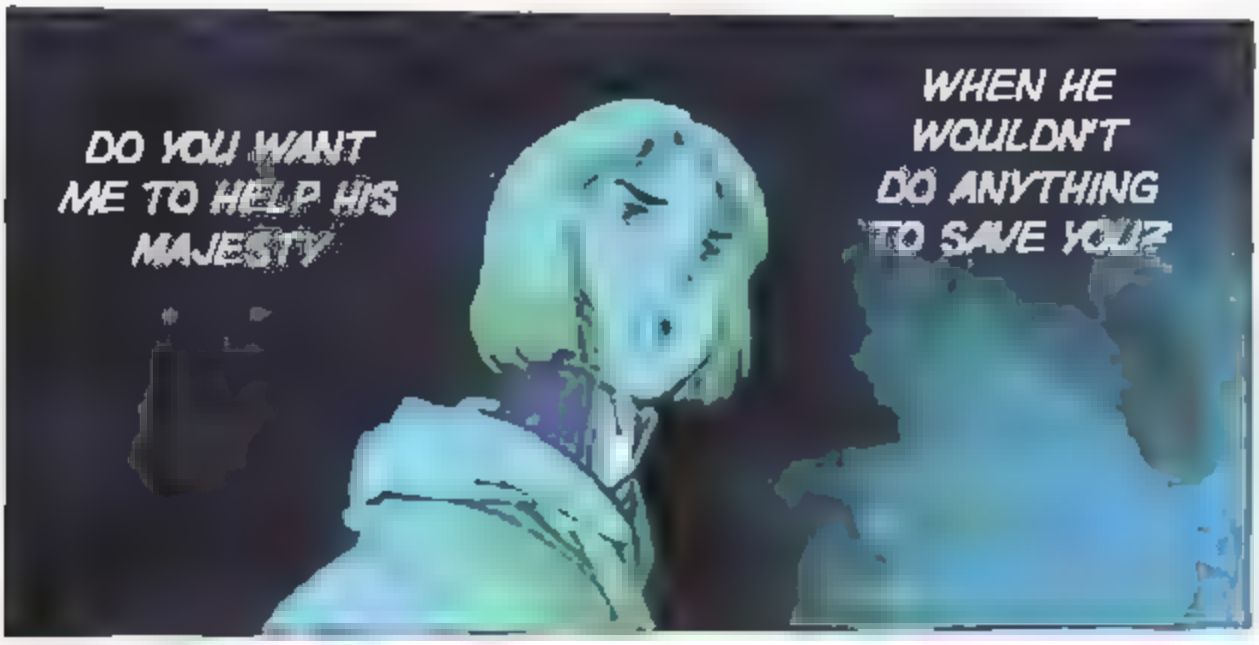
HMM.
THAT WAS A GOOD ONE.
YOU'RE INTERE-STING.
I LIKE YOU, EMIL DE BAUDRI-COURT.
DON'T WORRY. I WON'T TELL ANYONE
ABOUT YOUR SECRET.
THIS BUSINESS IS OVER!
GET OUT OF HERE!!

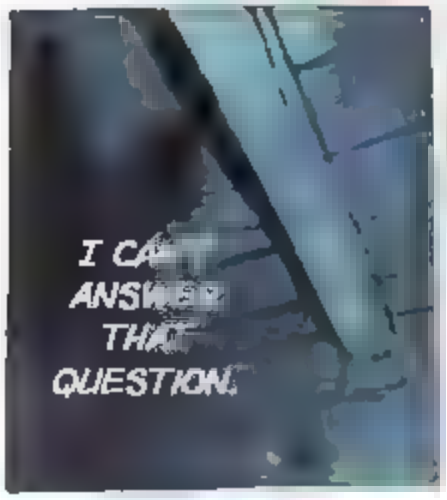




EMIL, EMI...
ARE YO
CRYING,
EMIL?
ARE YOU
SCARED?
OR SAD?
NO, JOAN.
NOT
BECAUSE
OF THAT.
I WAS
WEAK
TO BEAT
THE DAUPHIN.
THAT'S WHY
I'M SAD.

THE DAUPHIN IS A MAN HE IS PRO... HIS FEA...
THERE ...ING WRONG ...ING TO ...
THAT'S NOT THE POINT! JOAN!!
I AM CONFUSED ABOUT
WHAT IS TRUE AND RIGHT!
TELL ME! TELL ME CLEARLY SO THAT I CAN UNDERSTAND! WHY ARE THEY AGAINST US?
WHY DID YOU PROTECT KING CHARLES AT THE RISK OF YOUR LIFE ALONE? AND WHY


DO YOU WANT ME TO HELP HIS MAJESTY
WHEN HE WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING TO SAVE YOU?


I CA
ANSW
THA
QUESTION.

I TOLD YOU THAT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,
YOU HAVE TO TRUST IN WHAT YOU BELIEVE TO BE RIGHT.

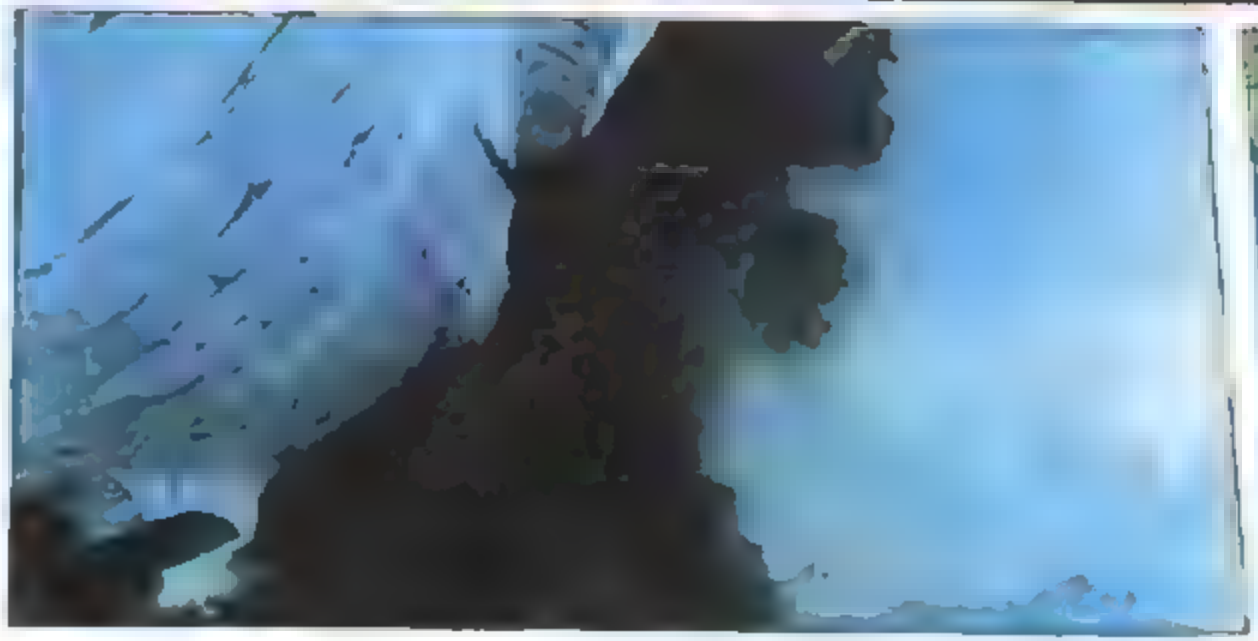
THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH. IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT,
I CAN'T FOLLOW YOU ANY MORE!
I MAY B RED/ I MAY D. M STAND T?
I CAN'T RISK MY LIFE FOR SOME-THING I DON'T UNDERSTAND!!
I END RED, EMIL.
I E AND F D THE VOICE...
AND YOU WERE BURNT
T !!

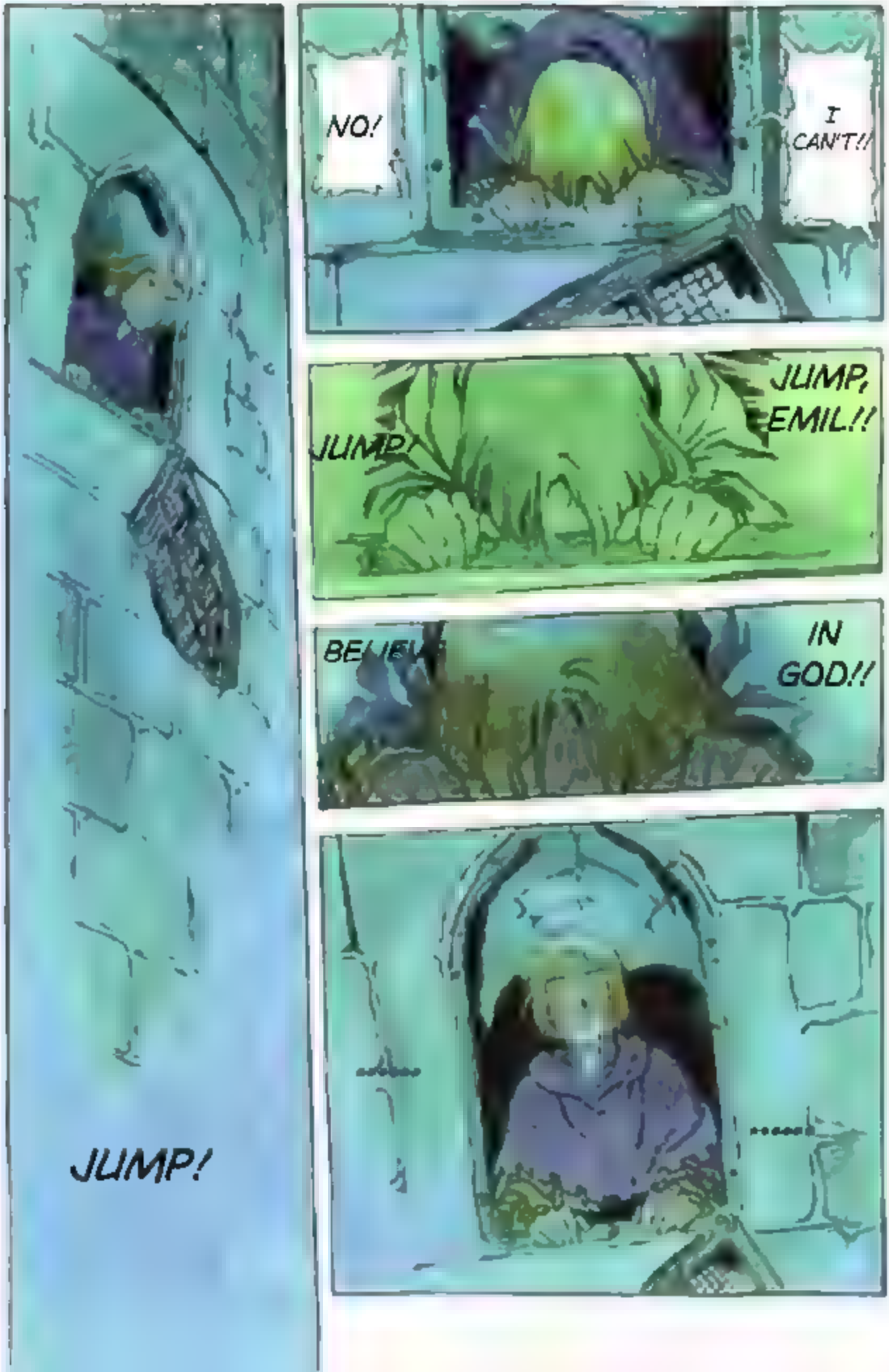
I'M JUST A WOMAN! I'M NOT LIKE YOU!
I WANT TO THINK FOR MYSELF!
I'M NOT GOING TO D ANYTHING WRONG!
NO, EMIL!!
YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND! WHAT CAN YOU SEE BY YOUR-SELF?
THE POWER OF MAN? FREEDOM?

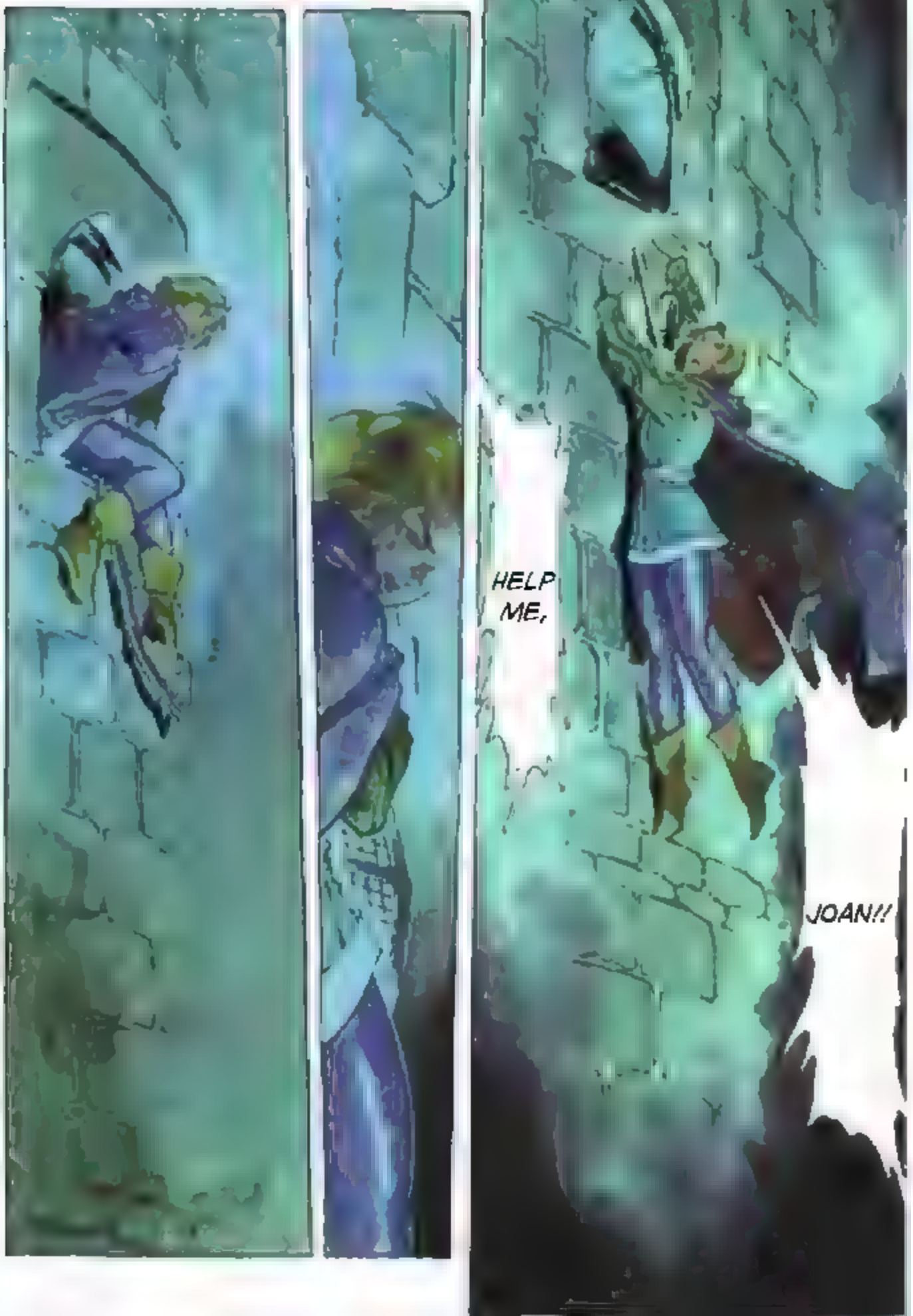
ARE
TIED UP WIT
ALL THAT YOU
STILL DON'T
UNDERSTAND?
FOLLOW
SOMETHING
BEYOND YOU!!

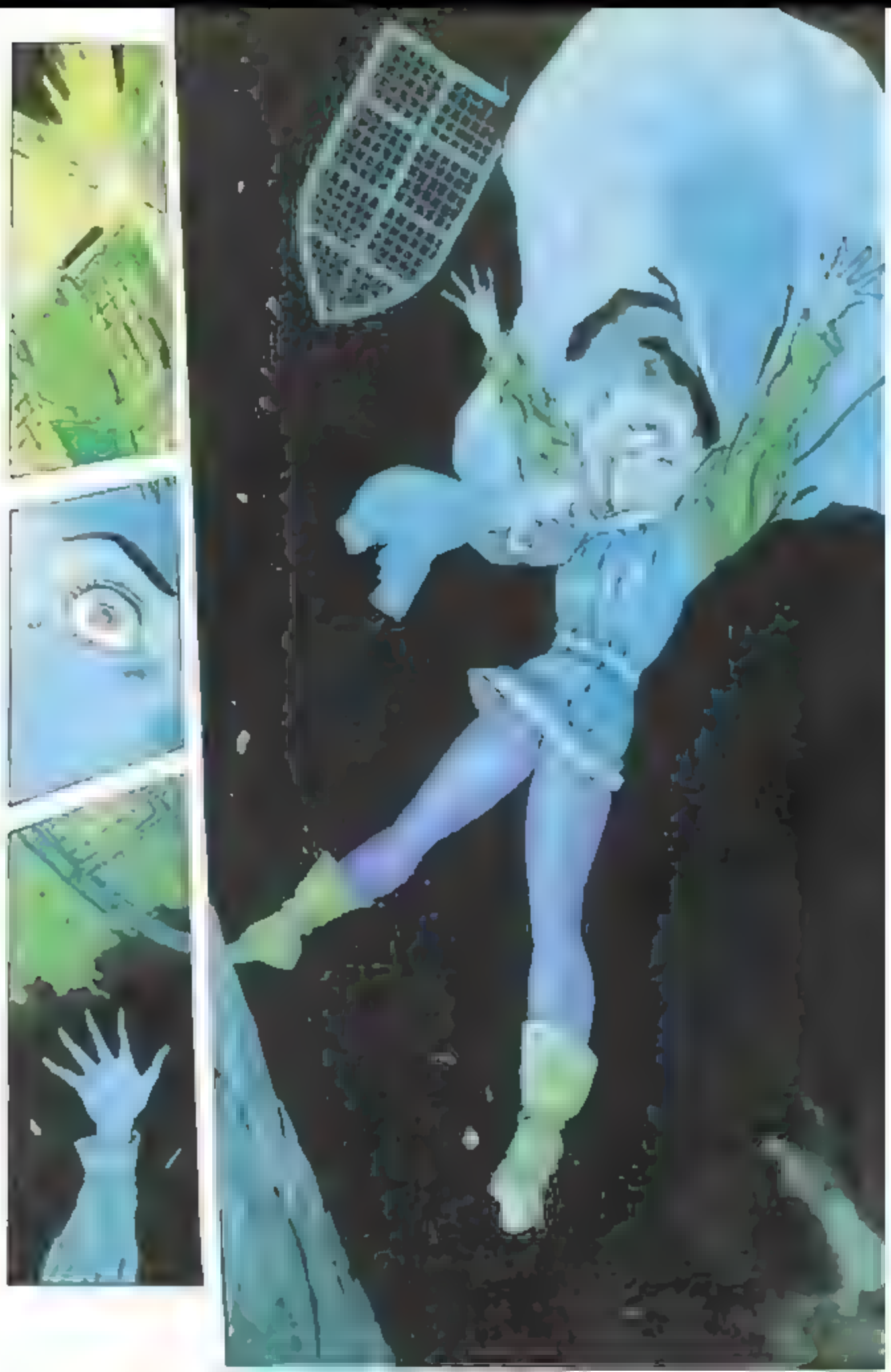
SPARK

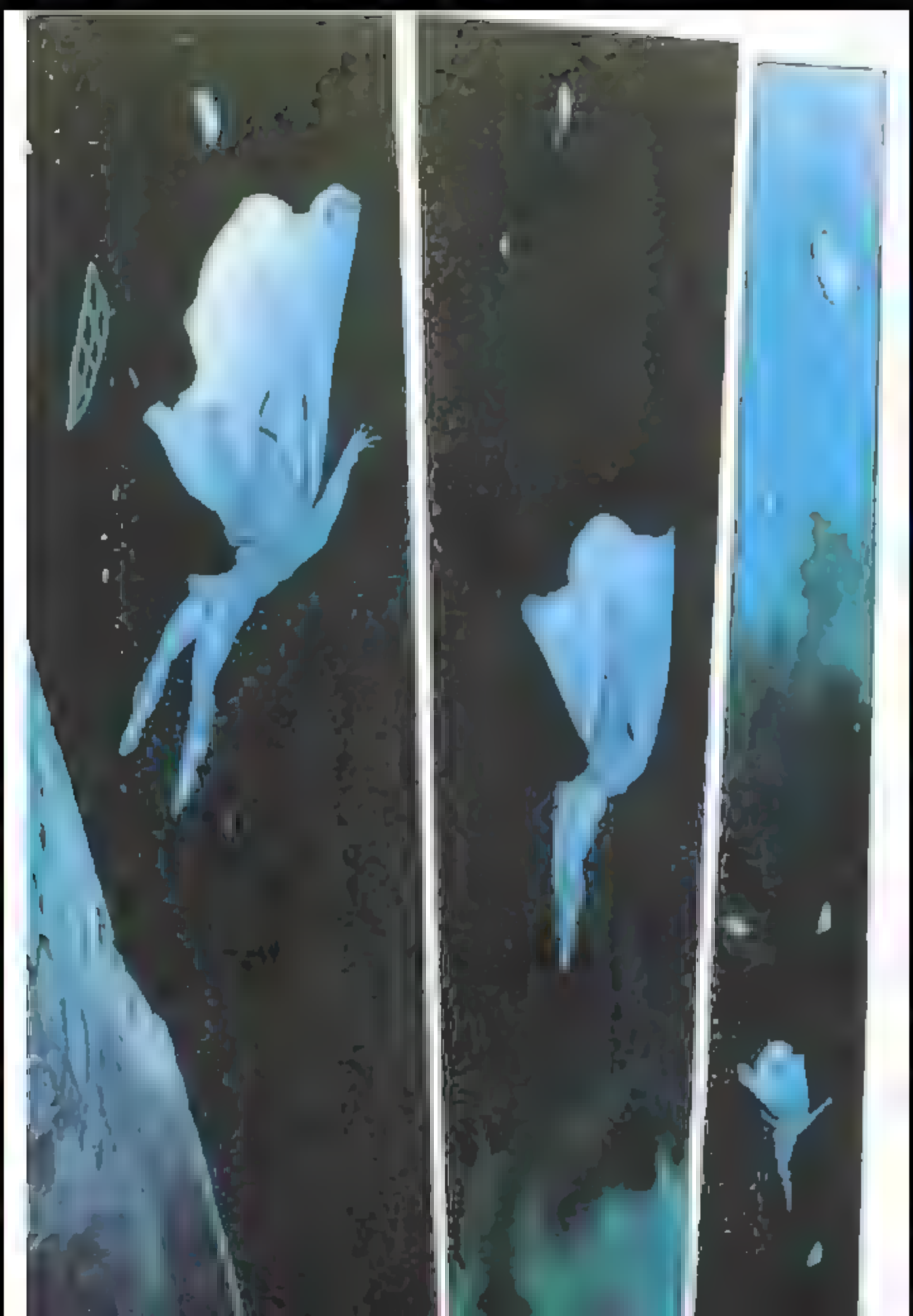
GET OUT OF HERE!
NOW!!
BEFORE DAWN!
GO!
THIS IS YOUR ONLY CHANCE!




NO!
I CAN'T!!
JUMP, EMIL!!
JUMP!
IN GOD!!
JUMP!


HELP ME,
JOAN!!





DAMN!
SHE ESC-APED.
AS I THOUGHT.
BUT I'M QUITE IM-PRESSED WITH THE ESCAPE
JUMPING FROM THAT HEIGHT.
SEARCH FOR HER UNDER THE TOWER AT THE BOTTOM OF THE RIVER!
DOWN-STREAM, TOO!
SHE MAY STILL BE ALIVE!

BAS-
TARD!!
ARRANGE
TROOPS.
HORSES
AND
BOATS,
TOO.
LIVE
CAPTIVE
MIGHT
START
SWIMMING.

THE AGE OF JOAN

JOAN OF ARC WAS BORN IN THEEARLY 15TH CENTURY, WHEN THE ENGLISH WERE ABOUT TO ANNEX FRANCE. AT THAT TIME, THE KING OF ENGLAND OWNED A GREAT DEAL OF LAND WITHIN FRANCE. THIS KIND OF SITUATION, ODD BY MODERN STANDARDS, HAD EXISTED SINCE THE 11TH CENTURY. IT GOES BACK TO THE TIME WHEN WILLIAM, DUKE OF NORMANDY, LAID CLAIM TO THE ENGLISH THRONE FOLLOWING HIS VICTORY AT THE BATTLE OF HASTINGS IN 1066. THE ROYAL FAMILY OF ENGLAND WERE THE
DESCENDANTS OF NORMANDY, AND THROUGH THEIR MARRIAGE POLICY, THEY EXPANDED THEIR LAND WITHINFRANCE BY INHERITING THE LANDS THROUGH BLOOD-TIES WITH FRENCH LORDS.

WHEN "THE HUNDRED YEARS WAR" BROKE OUT IN 1337, THE ENGLISH OWNERSHIP OF FRENCH LANDS WAS AT ITS FOUNDATION.

AT FIRST THE ENGLISH ARMY WAS LED BY EDWARD III AND HIS SON, PRINCE EDWARD (NICKNAMED THE BLACK PRINCE). IN 1376, HOWEVER, THE BLACK PRINCE DIED OF THE PLAGUE. HIS FATHER DIED OF A DISEASE THE FOLLOWING YEAR. THE KING OF FRANCE, CHARLES V, DID NOT MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY. HE STARTED A COUNTERATTACK IMMEDIATELY. THE FRENCH RECOVERED A GREAT DEAL OF LAND AND FRANCE WAS FREE, FOR THE MOMENT, FROM THE THREAT OF THE ENGLISH ARMY.

THE DEATH OF CHARLES V AND HIS SON'S MENTAL DISORDER CAUSED A POWER STRUGGLE AMONG THE MEMBERS OF COURT. IN 1407, JEAN, DUKE OF BURGUNDY'S ASSASSINATION OF LOUIS, DUKE D'ORLEANS, CAUSEDA DRAMATIC ERUPTION IN THE ONGOING FRICTION BETWEEN THE TWO POWERFUL HOUSES. THIS RESULTED IN AN OPEN CIVIL WAR IN FRANCE BETWEEN THE SUPPORTERS OF THE DUKE OF BURGUNDY (BURGUNDIANS), AND THOSE OF CHARLES, SON OF THE DUKE OF ORLEANS, CALLED ARMAGNACS.

HENRY V OF ENGLAND TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THIS, INVADING FRANCE WITH A TROOP OF THIRTY THOUSAND MEN. HE DEFEATED THE OVERPOWERINGLY LARGER FRENCH ARMY AT AGINCOURT.

IN HOPES OF ALLEVIATING THIS SITUATION, JEAN, DUKE OF BURGUNDY, ATTEMPTED TO UNITE FRANCE TO FIGHT AGAINST OUTSIDE OPPONENTS. HE HELD A MEETING WITH THE DAUPHIN CHARLES (LATER CHARLES VII), SON OF CHARLES VI OF THE ARMAGNACS. HOWEVER, DURING THE MEETING, THE DUKE OF BURGUNDY WAS ASSASSINATED BY ARMAGNACS IN REVENGE FOR THE DUKE D'ORLEANS' MURDER. THIS MADE A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES INEVITABLE. AS A RESULT, THE BURGUNDIANS MADE AN ALLIANCE WITH ENGLAND.

MOREOVER, THERE WAS DISCORD BETWEEN DAUPHIN CHARLES AND HIS MOTHER, QUEEN ISABELLE. SHE FINALLY DISINHERITED HIM. IN 1420 WITH HER SUPPORT, THE TREATY OF TROYES WAS CONCLUDED (AS A RESULT OF THE ENGLISH-BURGUNDIAN ALLIANCE). THE TREATY CALLED FOR HENRY V TO MARRY CATHERINE, DAUGHTER OF CHARLES VI, AND TO BECOME KING OF FRANCE ON THE DEATH OF HIS

Joan Book I

FATHER-IN-LAW.

THIS IS HOW FRANCE REACHED THAT CRITICAL MOMENT OF ANNEXATION BY THE ENGLISH. THEY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE INTERNAL CONFLICTS WITHIN THE FRENCH COURT. THE DAUPHIN CHARLES WAS IN BOURGES AT THAT TIME, UNDER THE PROTECTION OF SOME COURTIERS. HE APPEARED HELPLESS, EVEN PASSIVE, AS THE ENGLISH AND BURGUNDIAN MILITARY CONQUESTS CONTINUED.

JOAN OF ARC WAS BORN IN 1412 IN DOMREMY, A SMALL VILLAGE BY THE MEUSE RIVER. NEUFCHATEAU WAS LOCATED 20 KILOMETERS SOUTH, DOWN THE RIVER, AND VAUCOULEURS SEVERAL KILOMETERS TO THE NORTH. SOON AFTER SHE WAS BORN, THE NORTHERN HALF OF FRANCE WAS INVADED BY THE ENGLISH. ONLY HER BIRTH PLACE, THAT TINY AREA THAT RUNS 30 KILOMETERS BETWEEN NEUFCHATEAU AND VAUCOULEURS, BELONGED TO THE ROYAL FAMILY OF FRANCE. BAUDRICOURT, THE LORD OF THIS AREA, WAS FOR THE FRENCH.

JOAN'S FATHER WAS JACQUES D'ARC AND HER MOTHER WAS ISABELLE ROMEE. IT IS SAID THAT THEY WERE MIDDLE CLASS FARMERS. BOTH OF HER PARENTS WERE PIOUS.

ON A SUMMER DAY WHEN SHE WAS THIRTEEN, WHILE IN A GARDEN, JOAN SAW A SPARK COMING FROM THE DIRECTION OF THE CHURCH. SHE HEARD A VOICE SAYING "JOAN, SPEAK ONLY HONEST WORDS, AND DO ONLY JUST DEEDS. THOU MUST ATTEND CHURCH FREQUENTLY." AFTER THAT SHE STARTED HEARING VOICES MORE FREQUENTLY AND THE MESSAGES GOT MORE AND MORE DETAILED. "JOAN, GO TO HELP THE KING OF FRANCE AND RECOVER THE COUNTRY FOR HIM."

"GO TO SEE BAUDRICOURT, THE CAPTAIN OF VAUCOULEURS. HE WILL GUIDE YOU TO THE KING. ST. CATHERINE AND ST. MARGARET WILL PROTECT YOU."

"BREAK THROUGH THE SIEGE OF ORLEANS, TAKE THE KING TO REIMS AND CROWN HIM KING OF FRANCE."

SHE HAD TO GIVE AID TO THE DAUPHIN CHARLES AND FRANCE, WHICH MEANT THAT SHE HAD TO JUMP IN AMONGST FEROCIOUS MEN, GIVE THEM ORDERS, AND TAKE TO THE BATTLEFIELDS. IT ALSO MEANT THAT SHE HAD TO LEAVE HER FAMILY.

FIVE YEARS AFTER THE FIRST VOICE, JOAN FINALLY LEFT FOR VAUCOULEURS. SHE PERSUADED THE CAPTAIN, BAUDRICOURT, AND FINALLY MET WITH THE DAUPHIN CHARLES IN CHINON. AFTER THAT, SHE AND HER TROOPS ENDED THE SIEGE OF ORLEANS, A FRENCH BASE SURROUNDED BY THE ENGLISH ARMY, AND ACHIEVED HER MISSION. SHE TOOK THE DAUPHIN TO REIMS AND WITNESSED THE CORONATION OF CHARLES VII.

JOAN SUCCEEDED IN HER MISSION AND WORKED A MIRACLE. HOWEVER, A SERIES OF TRAGEDIES WERE WAITING FOR HER. SHE FAILED TO RECOVER PARIS AND WAS CAPTURED IN COMPIEGNE. ACCUSED OF BEING A WITCH BY THE ECCLESIASTICAL COURT AT ROUEN, SHE WAS BURNED AT THE STAKE..... HERS WAS A LIFE FILLED WITH MIRACLES AND TRAGEDY -- IT ENDED TWO YEARS AFTER SHE LEFT VAUCOULEURS.

*SPECIAL NOTES

PAGE 16 - THE DUKE OF LORRAINE WAS CHARLES II. HE RULED THE LORRAINE AREA THAT WAS LOCATED BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF FRANCE AND THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE.

PAGE 23 - BY THIS AGREEMENT MADE IN 1435, THE FRANCE THAT WAS DIVIDED INTO ARMAGNAC AND BURGUNDY FINALLY BECAME ONE. (REFER TO "THE AGE OF JOAN", PAGE 176)

PAGE 24 - A SON IN-LAW OF THE DUKE OF LORRAINE AND ALSO A BROTHER OF THE KING OF FRANCE'S WIFE, MARIE D'ANJOU. HE WAS A SUPPORTER OF JOAN OF ARC.

PAGE 31 - RICHEMONT'S BROTHER, JEAN, DUKE OF BURGUNDY, MADE A SUCCESSFUL ALLIANCE BETWEEN ENGLAND AND THE FORMER DUKE OF BURGUNDY.

PAGE 107 - HIS FATHER, LOUIS, WAS MURDERED BY JEAN, DUKE OF BURGUNDY (REFER TO "THE AGE OF JOAN." PAGE 176). IN 1415, HE WAS CAPTURED AT THE BATTLE OF AGINCOURT AND HELD PRISONER FOR TWENTY-FIVE YEARS BY THE ENGLISH.

A BASTARD OF LOUIS D'ORLEANS. AFTER HIS BROTHER CHARLES WAS CAPTURED, HE BECAME ONE OF THE MOST ACTIVE LEADERS IN THE DEFENSE OF ORLEANS. HE PARTICIPATED IN JOAN OF ARC'S CAMPAIGN AND WAS SIGNIFICANTLY SUCCESSFUL AS A MILITARY COMMANDER IN VARIOUS PLACES.

PAGE 116 - JEAN II, DUKE D'ALENCON, WAS TAKEN PRISONER AT THE BATTLE OF VERNEUIL BY THE ENGLISH. AFTER HIS RELEASE, HE JOINED JOAN'S ARMY AND WAS DEEPLY TRUSTED BY HER.

PAGE 140 - POTON DE XAINTRAILLES: LIKE LA HIRE, HE WAS ONE OF THE SINCERE FOLLOWERS OF JOAN OF ARC. HE FOUGHT FOR CHARLES VII TOGETHER WITH LA HIRE.

LA TREMOILLE: HE WAS THE CHAMBERLAIN AND A FAVORITE RETAINER OF CHARLES VII. HE ALWAYS SCHEMED TO KEEP JOAN OF ARC AWAY FROM THE KING.